

# THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

No. 15.

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PRICE TWO CENTS.

## THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

### THE U. S. CONSCRIPTION BILL.

The Senate of the United States has passed the bill introduced by Senator Wilson of Massachusetts, for enrolling and mustering into a force, if need be, all the able-bodied men in the United States between the ages of twenty and forty-five. The only exceptions are Governors of States, Judges, the only sons of two millions and a very few others. Unconquerable attempts were made to exempt members of Congress and clergymen. Senator Henderson said if he had his way he would put all the clergy in the field, and make them fight the battles they had done so much to injure. The bill gives a deadly blow at the doctrine of State independence and sovereignty, as the conscripts are to be enrolled by officials appointed by, and directly accountable to, the President of the United States. It is to be galed forth by drums in such numbers and assigned to military duty in such places, as he may see fit. No State, from iron to anything, to do with the business. This largely delights the editors who have been clamorous to have the rebellion speedily crushed, and who are now anxious for a foreign war, at least, practicable, but the Senator from one of the most recently admitted States—Michigan, plainly declared, that if the bill did not exempt those exempted by the State constitutions, there would be no revolution. A similar opinion was expressed, in the House of Representatives, when the Senator ill, was there taken up for consideration, by Mr. Fidell, of Pennsylvania, who observed that the Bank bill, and this taken in connection, changed the whole system of American government. Instead of a constitutional form of government there would be a system not materially differing from the despotism of France and Russia. The arbitrary and unjustifiable arrests by Provost-Marshal were calculated to inaugurate revolution. Another Representative said the bill was proposed to subdue the people of the last vestige of liberty. If those outrages shall be carried to the extent designed, a snappet will be made to the God of battle and justice. In fact, this debate showed that there is a rapidly increasing dissatisfaction with the course of the government, and its supporters now exhibit the overbearing demeanor that used to be indulged in by the ultra Southerners in Congress.

### UNEASY STATE OF PUBLIC FEELING.

The New York Journal of Commerce in a recent article, says that "up to the period of the fall elections the individuals supported entire confidence that they held the country in their grasp. They were therefore anxious to hear interviews with regard to political opponents. Among these plans was one for obtaining and holding absolute physical dominion in the State and city of New York over the persons and property of loyal conservative men, and exterminating them, not dissimilar to those used by French revolutionaries, the last remains of whom are evidently believed to be the small minority of some raved members in the country. We find in this day, on the thin crust of concealed volcanic crater. The air rings with threats. A long time ago the hand writing of which, in some cases, we took pains to verify as that of leading radical men in the neighborhood were showered on us and other conservative editors," etc., etc. "These have been made by

ardent men on both sides of the controversy, but unless violence is used by the radical party, and self defense becomes necessary, there is not the slightest reason to expect any collision in New York. We have recently heard in the street and in gatherings of citizens some ardent radicals speaking of hanging conservatives, with somewhat dangerous license. The language has been proper, and peremptory re-asked, and apologies have been compelled in every instance. If ever the opposing parties do fly at each other's throats, it will not be forgotten that the first threats of hanging, for treason or defiance of opinion—came from some eminent members of their very conservative body, the New York Chamber of Commerce.

### DISCUSSIONS ABOUT PEACE.

A glance around the political horizon, says the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, "reveals a most remarkable state of the public mind. Who was a year ago he was but one voice from the entire land, and above the roar of cannon, and that a voice for war—he is now but one voice, and that a voice for peace. Every newspaper which comes to our hands, whether its political character, is discussing the question how to make peace, when we can expect peace, what are the requirements of peace, and kindred points. Never was a country so thoroughly awake to a discussion of the people are to this which is now going on. It is possible to shut our ears to it. We have passed it in New York city than elsewhere, but our exchanges from the West and the East come in filled with the most exciting articles on the war, and peace, &c.

### LETTERS OF MARQUE AND REPRISAL.

The Senate last passed the bill authorizing letters of marque and reprisal, an amendment in the shape of substitute authorizing the President to make domestic and foreign wars, to issue letters of marque and reprisal. All amendments offered with a view to confine the operation of the bill to the suppression of the rebellion, were summarily rejected.

### THE STRENGTH OF THE SOUTHERN ARMY.

A clerk in the Adjutant-General's office at Richmond, who left to avoid the Southern authorities, on his arrival in Washington, and says there are only 181 regiments in the Southern army, but there are 800 of full, and 500 skeleton regiments have been abandoned; the total number of men at the present time being 52,000, which will certainly increase to 70,000 by the 1st of June. He says it is a common occurrence for men to be shot down for attempting to shirk the duty, and that as he knows, gathered the records, at least 2,500 have thus perished in different parts of the country.

### MIAMI LANFORS.

There are rumors of trouble in Miami, soon to be growing out of the introduction of negro troops. Five officers of the 13th regiment of N. Y. Volunteers have resigned, and one Brigadier-General has fully resolved to resign the colored troops, to march with them however it may be to hell. The Confederate steamer Florida, which was said to have been sunk by several U. S. gunboats, soon after running through the blockading fleet off Mobile, arrived at Nassau, N.P., on the 16th inst., and asked passage the next day.

The steamer Calypso had arrived at Nassau from Chester, announcing the raising the blockade of that port. The Confederate account—which the U. S. blocking officer pronounced so unqualifiedly—spoke of a vessel having been dispatched to Nassau with the news. What is to be believed?

### VARIETIES.

What do we seek redress for? Where do we find it? Injuries. It is suggested that every auctioneer ought to have a face that is fair-bidding.

What is it that strikes closer than a brother? said a teacher to his class. A post-office stamp—was it—and the young incendiaries asked

Where is not cotton grown now? Eight bales of it have just been landed from the Fiji Islands.

The famous "Shakspeare Cliff" at Dover, gave way during the late gales, and a large portion of it rolled into the sea.

Mr. Badger of North Carolina, a Speculator, has been expelled by the Senate of the U. S. from the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institute, and Professors Longfellow appointed in his place, and drawn

A democratic meeting, so-called, was to have been held in Lincolnsworth, Kansas, but the plan was countermanded by Col. Johnson and Anthony, who made speeches declaring they were present to shoot down the first traitor who dared give utterance to his dastardly thoughts. Kansas is a fine country to one away from a gun and a load of fuses old.

The 10th Illinois Regt. are being referred to right on account of the Emancipation Proclamation, as been placed under arrest, and held subject to trial by court-martial.

In the church at Erie, Canada, N. P., on Jan. 25th, at the moment Rev. Mr. Barron, a Unitarian minister, rose from the sofa to pronounce the benediction, the chimney, weighing perhaps a ton, fell through the ceiling, and crashed through the sofa down to the ground, crushing the table. Mr. Barron was hit by one of the splinters and fragments, but escaped with his life.

One of the largest Boston publishing houses is about sending the stereotype plates of a bulky octavo volume to England to be printed; the cost of paper in America being so ruinously advanced, the work can be done cheaper abroad, reckoning in all the expenses of foreign duties and exchange.

INCIDENTS OF CIVIL WAR.—Dr. Holland, of Texas, who bore a useful and distinguished part in the capture of the Harriet Lane, at Gettysburg, recently arrived in Richmond, bringing with him the signal book which was taken by the gallant Leon Smith in that splendid engagement. This book is worth more, perhaps, to the Confederacy than all the prize books were valued, even now; possibly, than the prestige of the victory. It was found upon the dead body of Commander Wainwright, and was worn by him in the breast pocket of his coat, where it was pierced by the bullet of a fatty revolver discharged by Capt. Smith, whose second fire killed his antagonist. Dr. Holland was one of the leading party that favored the change of the Harriet Lane. Some of the scenes and incidents he describes transpire in strange interest at the narrative of Alexander Dallas—8 or 9 years ago, while a passenger on board the Merrimac, afterwards changed to the Iron-clad, the Confederate Government made her run off across the Atlantic, she entered, as we all remember, Southampton waters, and her officers were received with great hospitality by the authorities of Southampton. Commander Wainwright was then the Master-at-arms of the Merrimac, and on going to London, was captured by Dr. Holland, who was then living in the great metropolis. The Doctor never saw him again alive, and recognized with a strong interest in the dead body of the Merrimac, of the Merrimac lying upon her deck the guest of some years ago in London! The sadness of all the terrible tragedies of this internecine war was uttered upon the same crimsoned and slippery stage, when Maj. Lee, of the Confederate army, encountered in the dying moments of the Federal cause, his own son! Can history or fiction afford any parallel to this? It is a curious fact, too, which has not been stated, that Capt. Leon Smith, to judge of it and General M. Granger, attributed the entire success of the attack on the Union fleet in Galveston Bay, to the brother of Capt. B. Smith, until very recently the Secretary of the latrines in Lincoln's Cabinet.

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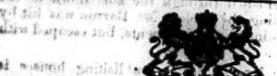
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SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The royal marriage will be solemnised at Windsor on Tuesday next, the 10th inst. The Princess Alexandra with her father and mother, will pass through London three days before the wedding. The marriage contract has been laid before the House of Commons by which it appears that pin-money to the amount of £10,000 per annum is guaranteed to the Princess with contingent right to an annuity of thrice that sum in the event of her becoming a widow.

The Heir Apparent, on the first day of the Parliamentary session, took his seat in the House of Lords for the first time as Duke of Cornwall.

Prince Alfred is to make his first voyage as Lieutenant in the Racoons. Capt. Count Gleichen, and will probably proceed to Australia.



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MADOC, SATURDAY, MARCH 7.

THE MADOC VOLUNTEER INFANTRY COMPANY.—In compliance with a written notice posted up in the village, calling upon the members of this company to assemble at the Town-Hall, at 10 o'clock, A. M. "sharp" on Thursday, for inspection, about forty out of the fifty-five officers and privates—made their appearance at the appointed hour. After donning their greatcoats and shakos, they marched around the village in very creditable style, and then returned to the Town-Hall, where addresses were made by their officers. Major Findlay, commanding the company, informed them that the system to be adopted, would be to drill them by squads, at times and places most suited to the convenience of the volunteers residing in the various parts of the township, under the instruction of their own officers until the time of the arrival of the drill sergeant to be appointed by the Government. Enthusiastic cheers were given for "the Queen," "Major James," "Major Findlay," "the Officers" and "the Volunteers," after which, at the request of the commanding officer, the men proceeded to select the clubbing best adapted to their sizes.

TWICE A WEEK TO BEAVER CREEK.—It will be seen by an advertisement in another

number, which comes out twice a week, leaving Madoc on Mondays and Thursdays, and returning from Beaver Creek on Tuesday and Friday. We are heartily glad to find that the Postmaster-General has decided to grant a semi-weekly mail service to the postoffice on the Hastings Road. The policy is sound, for nothing has contributed so much to the rapid settlement of the Great West of the United States as the establishment of daily

mails to places that shortly before were considered beyond the limits of civilization. For the mail brought the universal newspaper—and as long as they could only get the news, the hardy pioneers cared little how far they travelled ahead of other settlements.—This semi-weekly mail is another mark of the progress of the onward march of improvement in the back townships of Hastings County—and will make the settlers there feel as if they are being brought back into the busy world they have for the time left behind them.

A DRILL CLASS.—Last week a proposition was made by Mr. G. D. Rawe that a class for military drill should be formed in the Village of Hastings, under the able and efficient instruction of Major James. The suggestion was favourably received, and at once adopted—the officers of the Sedentary Militia, the merchants and business men generally agreeing to become members of the class as soon as made acquainted with the project. The class will meet for instruction three times a week.

The idea is an excellent one, and now that some of the newspaper editors, as well as Senators, a nong our neighbours, openly avow their belief that they will soon have a foreign war, in addition to the civil one now raging, upon their hands, no one can foretell what complications may ensue, or how necessary it may be for this Province to be in a state of preparation for warlike contingencies. We should therefore be glad to hear of the formation of similar classes in other parts of the North Riding, among the adult population; and we would suggest to the Trustees of the various School Sections the advantage that would accrue if they were to make arrangements for having the boys regularly drilled. One thing is pretty certain—the boys would all take to such instruction with hearty goodwill, and would derive lasting benefit from it. It would make them smarter and quicker both in their actions and ideas, and in all respects they would be better fitted to make their way in the world when grown up. In fact, if some such system is not voluntarily adopted, we hope yet to see it made a compulsory part of Canadian common school education.

THE WEATHER.—On Saturday, the last day of February, which according to the almanac is the last winter month, the sun shone out so brightly and warmly that there appeared every prospect of a speedy termination of the season of sleighing. Appearances were, however, very deceitful. The first two or three days of March it snowed incessantly—cleared up bright for a day or so—and then commenced snowing again. With a boisterous wind drifting the snow, the country wore its most wintry aspect, but yesterday a rapid thaw made quite a difference in the depth of the snow.

old, of Mr. Samuel Embury, of this townsh-  
ip, accidentally pulled a ton of boiling water over him  
the morning the Mr. Embury left the town  
so severely scalded, that he died the next day.  
THE CONCERT at the Brick School House, on  
Wednesday evening last, was well attended, and gave  
satisfaction. The proceeds, which are to be  
applied to the purchase of a large bell, for public  
worship, amounted to nearly \$50.

THE TEA MEETING at the M. E. Church on Wed-  
nesday evening in all of the circuit was greatly  
attended by a numerous company, quite as large  
as could conveniently accommodate. The  
proceeds of the occasion was about \$60.

THE TEA MEETING AT THE JORDAN on behalf  
of Hastings Road, Wesleyan Methodist Mission,  
the Orange-hall, last Tuesday evening, was  
enjoyed very pleasantly. The amount raised  
was something like \$20.

A SOIREE.—On Thursday evening next, a  
will be held in the Presbyterian Church, Allen-  
ment, with the object of clearing off the rem-  
ainder of the debt incurred in the building  
of the new church.

LEAD in N. Y. has been sold in large quantities  
in New York and Philadelphia, and in  
London and Liverpool will bring £100 per  
ton. THE AMERICAN WAR.—The  
Confederates have had news again from the  
west. The Iron Queen of the West, which late  
last week was captured by the Confederates up Red River, whither she had gone  
in search of rebel steamers and fortifications,  
captured ram was at once turned to good account  
and in company with other C. S. vessels attacked  
the U. S. iron-clad gunboat Indiana, which  
was supposed to be impregnable to artillery. The  
Confederates are once more in possession of  
Mississippi at a point essential to the receipt of  
plies for the defence of Vicksburg.

A report was afloat in New York that the Federals had again been defeated before Vicksburg, with a loss of 20,000, of whom 7,000 were drowned. No credit  
is attached to it. The Memphis Bulletin says it is cred-  
ibly believed in well informed circles that  
Confederates are evacuating Vicksburg.

The Confederate "pirate" Florida captured  
burnt the fine ship Jacob Bell bound from China  
to New York, with a cargo of tea valued at \$1,500,000.  
Her passengers and crew were transferred to a Danish  
vessel, and arrived at St. Thomas on the 19th ult.

The Slave Conscription bill has passed the House  
of Representatives by a vote of 115 to 49.

The news of the affair off Charleston had reached  
England. By the arrival of the Kedár at New York  
the comments of the English press had been received.  
The Times says there was not even an intimation of  
the blockade, and the Post says even if there was,  
it did not terminate the blockade, or render necessary  
the issuing of a fresh notice to foreign nations. No  
such notice need be given, nor will the British Government require it.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT  
OF CANADA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—  
Mr. Rossot moved for the correspondence between  
the Executive and the Colonial Office on the subject  
of arming and organizing the Canadian Militia—  
Carried.

The bill for the better protection of sheep in Upper  
Canada was read a second time.

Mr. Currie introduced a bill to amend the 53rd  
section of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada,  
respecting joint stock companies. Also a bill for the  
better assignment of dower in Upper Canada.

Mr. F. A. Belcourt moved for copies of certain corre-  
spondence on Amritia General Order of Nov. 1st, 1862.  
Sir E. P. Taaffe complained of the Government

Feb. 26th.



The authorship of the following clever lines is often attributed to Tom Moore. They are, however, by JOHN FINLAY, of Dublin, published at Cork in his "Humble Poet of the West."

BACHELOR'S HALL what a queer looking place it is,  
Keeps me from all the joys of life.  
But I think what a horrid disgrace it is,  
Never shall be getting a wife.

See the old muck or, gloomy and sad enough,  
How it looks like a prison-house or a tomb,  
With its portcullis and iron bars enough,  
Who's surprised to fight with the bards?

This like a pig in a mortar bed wallowing,  
Awkward enough see him knelling his dough;  
Trot if the bairn he can't without swallowing  
How it would favour his poise, you know.

His disposition is mischievous—the pigs are devouring it,  
So the parents are anxious—Gladly it's devouring it,  
And the old woman with a pickle het's avarious,  
He goes along over the table last settings,

Dishes take care of yourselves if you can;  
But hunger returns—their fuming knoll fretting so,  
Shows him alone for a baste of a mixt  
Aches and pains, and such gray commodities,  
Under and peat-skin cver the floor.

His cupboard's a storeroom of coarse old clothes,  
Things that had never been dignified before,  
The old woman she has one bad shrewish,  
Never a bit is the bairn in sole at;

He creeps like a terp in under the fire-trap,  
And back to the picture of Bachelor's Hall.

## HUMOROUS LYRICS OF THE DAY.

(Continued.)

## A NIGHT OF HORROR.

A TRUE STORY.

How long I slept, I never knew. I awoke at once with that abrupt start which we all know well, and which carries us in moment from utter unconsciousness to the full use of our faculties. The fire was still burning, but was very low, and half the room or more was in deep shadow. I knew I felt that some person or thing was in the room, although nothing unusual was to be seen by the feeble light. Yet it was a sense of danger that had aroused me from slumber. I experienced, while yet asleep, the chill and shock of sudden alarm, and I knew, even in the act of throwing off sleep like a mantle, why I awoke, and that some intruder was present. Yet though I listened intently no sound was audible, except the faint murmur of the fire—the dropping of a glider from the bars—the local irregular beatings of my own heart. Notwithstanding this silence, by some intuition I knew that I had not been deceived by a dream, and felt certain that I was not alone—I was haunted.

My heart beat one quicker more, suddenly grew its pulsations as a bird in the cage might flutter in the presence of a hawk. And then I heard a sound rather than a distinct, the clank of iron, the rattling of a chain. I ventured to lift my head from the pillow. Dark and uncertain as the light was, I saw in the curtains of my bed sheen, and caught a glimpse of something beyond a darker spot in the darkness. This confirmation of my fears did not surprise me so much as it shocked me. I strove to cry aloud, but could not utter a word.

The chain rattled again, and this time the noise was louder and clearer. But though I strained my eyes they could not penetrate the obscurity that shrouded the other end of the chamber, whence came the sultry clanking. In a moment several distinct trains of thought, like many-colored strands of thread twining into one, became palpable to my mental vision. Was it hubris? could it be a supernatural visitant? or was the victim of a cruel trick, such as I had heard of, and which some thoughtless persons love to practise on the timid, regardless of comfort in it; suggested itself? There was a fine young dog of the Newfoundland breed, a favourite of my master, which was usually claimed by night in an unbroken Neptune might have broken loose, found his way to my room, and, finding the doorjambs effectually closed, have pushed it open and entered, and uttered more freely as this horrid interpretation of the noise forced itself upon me. It was—it must be—the dog, and I was distressing myself needlessly; and resolved to call him. I strove to rouse his master, Neptune. Neptune! but a severe apprehension restrained me, and I was more afraid of惊醒 myself than of惊醒 Neptune, than the glib-clanked nearer and nearer to the bed, and presently I saw a dusky, shapeless mass appear between the curtains on the opposite side to where I was lying. How I longed to leap the white of the poor animal, that I hoped might be the cause of my alarm. But no; I heard no sound save the rattle of the curtains and the clank of the iron chain. Just then the dying flame of the fire leaped up, and with one sweeping, hurried glance I saw

was shut, and "horror! it is not the dog! It is the semblance of a human form that now throws itself heavily up the bed, outside the curtains, and lies there, and swarves in the red gleam that treacherously darts away, after showing so much to affright, and sinks into dull darkness."

There was now no light left, though the red cinders glowed with a lurid glow, like the eyes of wild beasts. The chain rattled no more. I tried to speak to, scream wildly for help; my mouth was parched, my tongue refused to move. I could not utter a cry and indeed, who could have heard me, alone as I was in that solitary chamber, with no living neighbour and the picture-gallery between me and any aid that even the long, st. most piercing shriek could summon. And the storm that howled without would have drowned my voice, even if help had been at hand. To call aloud—to demand who was there—was? how useless, how perilsome! If the intruder were a robber my outcry would but goad him to fury; but what robber would set thus? As for a trick, that seemed impossible. And the shadowy figure, at first pale, now wholly suggest a steven to gray stone, as there rushed on my memory a flood of weird legends—the dreaded yet fascinating lore of my childhood. I had heard and repeat the stories of wicked men forced to revisit the scenes of their earthly crimes—or demons that lurked in certain accursed spots—of the ghoul and vampire of the East, stealing amid the graves they ride for their ghastly banquets, and I shudder ed as I gazed on the blank darkness where I knew it lay. It stirred—it moaned hoarsely; and again I heard the chain clank close beside me—so close that it must almost have touched me. I drew myself from the shriveling away, in loathing and terror of the evi thing—wist, I knew not, but felt that something malignant was near.

And yet, in the extremity of my fear, I dared not speak; I was struggling足以 to be silent, even in moving further off; for I had a wild hope that it—the phantom, the creature, whatever it was—had not discovered my presence in the room. And then I remembered all the events of the night—Lady Steel burst in ill-omened, vaticinating, her half-warning, her singular look as we parted, my sister's persuasion my tutor in the gallery, the remark that "this was the room where Shadrack used to talk of." And the memory, stimulated by fear, recalled the long forgotten past, the ill-report of this dismally chamber this it hid witness'd, the blood spilt, the poison administered by unnatural bite within its walls, the tradition which called it haunted. The great room—I remembered how fearfully the servant avoided it—how it was mentioned rarely, and in whispers, when we were children, and how we had regarded it as a mysterious region, fit for mortal habitation. Was it—the dark form with the chain—a creature of this world, or a spectre? And again—more dreadful still—could it be that the corpse of wicked men were forced to rise, and haunt in the body places where they had wrought their evils deeds? An- was such as the grisly neighbour?

The chain finally rattled. My hair bristled; my eyeballs seemed starting from their sockets; the dimples of a great anguish were on my brow. My heart bounded as if I were crushed beneath some vast weight. Sometimes it appeared to stop, its frenzied beatings sometimes its pulsations were bare and hurried, my breath came short, and with extreme difficulty, and I shivered as with cold; yet I feared to stir. I moved, it moved; it followed, clanked dimly, the couch creaked and shook. This was no phantom then—no air-drawn spectre. And again—more dreadful still—could it be that the corpse of wicked men were a thousand times more terrible? I felt that I was in the very grasp of what could not only affright, but burn; of something whose curse had sickened the soul with deadly fear. I made desperate resolve; I girded from the bed, I seized a warm wrapper, threw it around me, and tried to grop with extended hands, my way to the door. My heart beat high at the hope of escape—but I had scarcely taken one step before the mansion was awoken, I changed into a threatening growl that would have suited a wolf's throat, and a hand gripped at my sleeve. "I stood motionless, the uttering growl sank to a moan again, the chain sounded no more, but still the hand held its grip of my garment; and I feared to move. I knew of my presence then! My brain reeled, the blood boiled in my ears, and my knees lost all strength, while my heart panted like that of a deer in the wolf's jaws. I sank back, and the numbing influence of excessive terror reduced me to a state of torpor.

When my full consciousness returned, I was sitting on the edge of the bed, shivering with cold, and bar-torred! All was silent; but I felt that my sleeve was still clasped by my unearthly visitant. The silence lasted a long time. Then followed a chuckling laugh from my very narrow, and the gnashing of teeth,

as in demoniac fury, and then a wailing moan, as this was suspended by silence, a still of still of still.

Hours may have passed away, though the tumult of my own heart prevented my keeping the exact time, must have passed—but the shadows lengthened! And how were they spent? Hidden, like a passing before the aching eyes that I dared not close, which gazed ever into the dumb darkness, when it lay—my dead companion through the watches the night. I pictured it in every abhorrent for which an excited fancy could summon, now as a skeleton, with hollow eye-holes and toothless jaws, now as a vampire with livid teeth and bloodstained dripping month wet with blood.

Would it never be light? And yet when day shou

dawn, I should be forced to see the creature face

I had heard that species and find were con

spelled to fade as morning brightened, but let

this creature was too real, too bold a thing of earth

to vanish at cock-crow. No! I should see it—the horri

face to face. And then the cold prevailed, and mo

th chattered, and shiverings ran through me, as yet there was the damp of agony upon my brow

some instinct made me snatch at a shawl of clo

but lay on a chair within reach, and wrap it around

me. The moon was removed, and the chain just affir

then I sunk into apathy, like an Indian at the stake in the intervals of torture.

Mourning led, and I remained like a statue of ice rigid and white. I even slept, for I remember started to find the cold gray light of an early winter day was on my face, and stealing around the round ball between the heavy curtains of the window, shading but urg'd by the kaputus that rivets the gaze of the bird upon the smile, I turned to see the horrors of the night. Yes, it was no fevered dream, no halting nation of sickness—no airy phantom suitable to face the dawn. In the sickly light I saw it lying on the bed with its grim head on the pillow. A man—or a corpse arises from its unshaded grave, and awaiting the human that animated it. There it lay—a gaunt, ignoble form, wasted to a skeleton, half-fold, foul dust and clootted gore its huge limbs dung upon the couch, as if at random, its shaggy hair streaming over the pillows like a lion's mane. The face was to wards me. Oh, the wild hideousness of that face in sleep. In features it was human given through its horrid mask of mud and half-dried bloody gouts, the expression was bestial and savage; there white teeth were visible between the parted lips, a malignant grin, the tangled hair and beard were mixed in ironical confusion and there were scars disfiguring the brow. Round the creature's waist was a band of iron, to which was attached a heavy but broken chain—the chain I had heard clanking. With second glance I noted that part of the chain was wrapped in straw, to prevent its galling the wearer. The creature—I cannot call it a man—had the marks of fators on its wrists; the bony arm that protruded through one tattered sleeve was scarred and bruised; its feet were bare, and, indicated by bubbles and rags, and one of them was wounded, and wrapped in a mass of rag. And the ten hands, one of which held my sleeve, were armed with talons like an

angler's. I could not bear to look at it.

(To be concluded next week.)

AN INTERNAL MACHINE.—In the latter part of De-

cember, 1862, a box was forwarded from North Adams, N. Y., to New York, thence to Chicago, Ill. It was directed to Mr. Whipple, of that city. As he was absent from town when the box arrived, it remained for two weeks in the express office unnoticed and unopened. Mr. Whipple returned to Chicago, and sus

pected that something was wrong about this mysterious box, which was about 16 inches long, 14 wide and 10 high, enveloped in thick wrapping paper, tied with cord while on its front side was a board three-quarters of an inch thick, covering the hole, and fastened by a screw in each corner. Chief of Police Bradley who consulted it, and became satisfied the box contained an infernal machine. By an ingenious contrivance, the cover of the box was not moved, and as a keyhole was then discovered in front of the keyhole, containing the key of the box and a description of its contents—which were said to be new inventions, requiring the utmost secrecy in their removal. Still the box was unopened.

On January 1, 1863, a heavy weight—dropped from long range at safe distance—struck the box, when an explosion followed, that was heard for the distance of many miles. Nathaniel Hodge, a prominent lawyer of North Adams, Massachusetts, has been indicted by the U. S. Grand Jury for conspiracy and assault, with intent to commit murder, and sent to Chicago for trial. Between him and Mr. Whipple a feeling of enmity had long existed, arising from Mr. Whipple, who was part owner in a railway line invented by Mr. Hodge, having transferred his interest to several railway companies.—*Troy (N. Y.) Times*.

# THE MADOC MERCURY

## AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1863.

PRICE TWO CENTS. U.S. MAIL

## THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

## AFFAIRS ABROAD.

The following is a full report of the speech made by Mason, the Southern Commissioner in England, at Lord Mayor's dinner, on Feb. 11, which was delivered with such marked enthusiasm, that the Times thought it necessary to explain that Mr. Mason's welcome by the Lord Mayor had no political significance.

"I did not feel deeply the obligations I am under to the honoured chief magistrates of this city for permission to be present to-night. I should feel strongly disposed to pick a quarrel. His Lordship has not been so fortunate as to have, in England, I am not disposed of full size; that I am yet in my minority Government of England—we all know, however, and always a wise government in its generation—has declared that the country which I represent broad waters has not yet attained of discretion, and is not capable of managing our affairs. (A laugh.) I say, therefore, that, but being really overwhelmed by the kind and generous manner in which I have been received by this honored company, and in the presence of your chief magistrate, I should have been disposed to say, in the language of a poet:

"You would scarce expect one of my age  
To speak in public on the stage."

Lord Mayor, I am a stranger in London—or rather I was a stranger; but I have learned since I came to London, that none of English blood from my Southern land are strangers among you. (Cheers.) speak this from my heart—(cheers)—for I have been every circle in England and by every class of society, a welcome and an honoured guest. (Cheers.) Turn my sincere thanks to you for the kindness with which you have listened to a stranger. (The day will me—(great cheering)—it is not for off, when the relationship between that Government, which is now its infant fortune, and yours will be one of close and intimate alliance. (Renewal of cheers.) My country, the跳跃的 producer of the great staple of the world; and I say the relations—commercial; doubtless political; certainly social—between my honoured countrymen and the people of London will before long be of the most intimate character. (Cheers.)

It is really amusing to notice the difference between one of this species and that habitually indulged in.

Mr. Mason, as Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations of the U. S. Senate, in former years, in speaking of anything British, used not to be Commenting upon this speech and its favorable reception; the London correspondent of the New York *Times* says "the truth is that commercial as well as aristocratic England is almost entirely in favor of the South. The merchants expect, with peace, free trade and great profits. The South is a mine of wealth which they are impatient to enter." But a special speech to the Tribune, from Washington, says—"distinguished English statesman says it's recent private letter that the reaction in favor of the cause of the Union is so strong in Great Britain that no cabinet could live an hour which should take steps towards the recognition of the Southern Confederacy."

"Anonymous," who has addressed, through the columns of the London *Daily News*, a long letter to Lord Palmerston on the subject of a "navy" being built in England for the Confederates, asserts that pounds of fifty steam-vessels, of various descriptions and in different stages of completion, might be constructed as intended for the "Chinese." This he says, is in general use in the shipbuilding yards of the Clyde and the Mersey, to designate the Chinese.

Soldiers' conspiracy is largely, if not mainly indebted for its success up to the present time to the material aid which has been extended to it by British capital. Two years before it broke out, their co-operation had been secured through the instrumentality of the highest diplomatic agents of the United States then in this country." [!] "Nor was the first conciliated by the Democratic party, that in the event of secession and war, almost any amount of pecuniary aid could be procured from this quarter. These powerful combinations in support of the slaveholders' conspiracy comprised the monetary, shipping and mercantile interests." After specifying the terms upon which vessels are sent out to attempt to run the blockade, "Anonymous" again declares "Thus British capital and is alone, furnished the Confederacy with the means of carrying on the war. Some idea may be formed of the large number of vessels engaged, and of the vast capital risked in this contraband trade from the fact that the Federal cruisers have captured nearly 600, chiefly British, while attempting to run the blockade, and confiscated property to the amount of eight million pounds sterling. So great, however, are the profits arising from this traffic, that it is daily increasing."

PORT-ROYAL, March 13.—Preparations for the movement against the enemy were still in progress when the Arago left for New York on Feb. 25th. All the iron-clads, except two had arrived. The misunderstanding as to Gen. Foster's troops had been arranged, and no more difficulty was apprehended. The troops taken into the Department of Gen. Foster were to be under the command of Gen. Hunter.

A private letter from Port Royal makes the following curious statement: "Gen. Foster took a captain and thirty men from the Tenth Connecticut, just before he went North, and made a reconnaissance. They entered Bull's Bay, north of Charleston harbor, and landing there, marched through the enemy's pickets to within full sight of Charleston, and even to within view of Fort Sumter, at about a mile and three quarters distant, so near that the officers from the parapet of the fort could see them. They returned unharmed, and think there is every reason to believe a successful attack can be made upon the Babylon of rebellion from a quarter deemed unserviceable."

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The writer goes on to assert that the "navy" referred to is to be used in attacking the harbors of the

fractional parts of a dollar of zinc, or a substance similar to it. It is suggested that the mints might thus afford employment, and a more acceptable currency than that now in use readily furnished.

From San Francisco we learn of a serious conflict now going on in Hiney Lake Valley, in regard to the California boundary. The people of Nevada fired on the California sheriff, while attempting to seize a wife on the land in dispute, and wounded six of his followers. Both parties then sent for reinforcements, and at last accounts were fortifying themselves in log houses.

The officers of the Florida say they passed a night in company with the U. S. man-of-war Vanderbilt, at the time the latter was in search of the Alabama.

## AGRICULTURAL.

*The Use and Properties of Lime.*—Special properties of Lime.—Lime, or oxide of calcium, is a white, porous, brittle substance, which is highly caustic, and possesses a great affinity for water. When water is added to quicklime, it first absorbs it, and then combines with it; during this process great heat is evolved. If slaked lime be left exposed to the atmosphere, it gradually absorbs carbonic acid from the atmosphere, parts with some of its water, and becomes converted into carbonate of lime.

To what Soil and Plants is it Best Adapted?—Lime should be applied to clays, loams, peats, &c.; indeed, very fertile soil contains little. The only soils that do not require liming are the sandy ones, and those deficient in organic matter. All plants which generally cultivate extract lime from the soil. It is usually applied to the wheat and barley crops also to pasture.

Its Mode of Application.—The most general mode is to apply it in its caustic state, and in the form of compounds; the latter is the most expensive and, perhaps, the most efficient, for several other fertilizing substances are added with the lime to the soil.

The Duration of its Fertility.—Its duration depends upon the kinds of lands, the depth of the soil, the quantity of vegetable matter it contains, and upon the species of culture to which it is subjected. When the land is wet, or not well drained, lime should be frequently applied and heavy doses given. On the other hand, when the soil is dry a smaller application at longer intervals will suffice.

*Its Chemical Effects.*—The chemical effects of lime upon the soil are chiefly the following: When caustic lime is laid upon the land, it combines with all the free acid matter it may contain, and, in doing so, the soil is very much improved; several of the compounds thus produced enter into the roots and feed the plants. It also decomposes some of the compounds of potash, soda and ammonia, by which these substances are set free, and played within the reach of the plant. Another action is to destroy the salts of manganese, iron and aluminum, and to render them saliniferous to plants. Its presence in the caustic state hastens the decomposition of organic substances.

*Mark Lane Experiments.*—An English gardener of the name of *Mark Lane* makes a great deal of what he calls "Falling Manure." He means breaking up the lumps, tearing in pieces the long straw parts, and bringing all into such a fine state that it can be thoroughly mixed with the particles of the soil. Having broken it up, he mixes it with ashes, leaves, horse-dung, turnips, and all the refuse of his garden, laying it up in thin layers. When it has become partly decomposed, he overturns it, turning it over with the shovel and breaking it into homogeneous masses. After the dung has lain a few months, it gets another covering, when it is thoroughly "dined" and ready for use anywhere. He is a very successful gardener, and describes himself part of his success to the careful preparation of his manure. Farmers and weavers of other countries learn a hint from his example.

*Finger Millet.*—An English gardener of the name of *Finger Millet* makes a great deal of what he calls "Falling Manure." He means breaking up the lumps, tearing in pieces the long straw parts, and bringing all into such a fine state that it can be thoroughly mixed with the particles of the soil. Having broken it up, he mixes it with ashes, leaves, horse-dung, turnips, and all the refuse of his garden, laying it up in thin layers. When it has become partly decomposed, he overturns it, turning it over with the shovel and breaking it into homogeneous masses. After the dung has lain a few months, it gets another covering, when it is thoroughly "dined" and ready for use anywhere. He is a very successful gardener, and describes himself part of his success to the careful preparation of his manure. Farmers and weavers of

other countries learn a hint from his example.

It is plain that coarse, lumpy manure cannot benefit land as well as that which is broken up and finely divided through it. The reason why lumpy manures are not so effective is because they are continually divided among the soil.

*Zinc Coys.*—In view of the fluctuating value of the present currency, a provision has been made to coin

# THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Two Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY on advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:

	per line.
Six lines, first insertion	9 50
Each subsequent insertion	6 25
Six to ten lines, first insertion	10 75
Each subsequent insertion	7 50
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	10 00
Each subsequent insertion	7 00

All Communications for the Mercury to be addressed, (post-paid), to A. SMALLMAN, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY, OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

We have received a copy of the Quebec Chronicle containing Mr. Benjamin's speech in the Assembly on the inconsistencies between the professions of the present Ministry when out of office and in their present position. It is a speech that will not spoil by keeping, and we may find room next week for some extracts.



## THE MADOC MERCURY AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, MARCH 14.

THE TENTH OF MARCH, the day of the marriage of the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra, was very generally celebrated as a holiday, in honour of the auspicious event, in the principal cities and towns throughout the Province.

A GOOD TIME COMING.—We are glad to learn from a source likely to be well informed that the Government contemplate appropriating the sum of \$10,000 for improving the Hastings Road. The amount can be very profitably expended, as there is work enough to be done before the road will be all it should be, considering it is the main line of communication through the County. A thoroughly good road is an essential requirement for enabling the hardy backwoods settlers to get their supplies and bring their produce to market. The money to be expended will also prove a great boon to them at this time, as the winter has been a hard one, the last harvest having barely produced enough for their necessities.

There is a general desire in this community that the management of the improvements to be effected may be committed to the charge of Mr. Hayes, whose official connection with the settlement of the Free-Grants has given him a more thorough and practical acquaintance with the best mode of effecting the object in view, than any one else can possess.

THE VOLUNTEERS.—Sergeant Joseph Bates has kindly consented to repair and fix a building for a drill room and armoury for use of the Company commanded by Major

Findlay. The shed is about 30 by 24, and its communication with the Bed River settlers, when completed, will form an excellent drill hall while British subjects are still impeded by a gigantic boom. Mr. Bates had a large "Bed" or monopoly. It appears from two letters recently written those belonging to the Company in the village, sent by Mr. Hayes, the Crown Land Agent residing in this village, in reply to the assertions made by Mr. Allan Gilmour in a lengthy communication to the Quebec Chronicle, that the well-known "Gilmour Company" would very much like, if it could, to occupy pretty nearly the same relation to Central Canada as the Hudson's Bay Company does towards its "Territory."

It seems that Mr. Allan Gilmour contends "that the country, as a whole, into which settlement is being forced on the Ottawa and Trent, is unfit for agricultural purposes." He is anxious to have the vast tract thus slightly referred to preserved for the benefit of the lumbering interest. So he assumes that all the reports of the agricultural capabilities of the district are false or exaggerated, "and consequently" (as Mr. Hayes says) "that the whole of the Provincial Land Surveyors and Crown Land Agents of Upper Canada are men upon whose statements no reliance can be placed."

Mr. Gilmour causes his views to be published in Quebec, where they may reasonably be supposed to be intended to influence the members of the Provincial Parliament now in session. Possibly, however, he was under the impression that there are no newspapers at all in or near the sterile region he philanthropically objects to see settlement forced into. Mr. Hayes, on the contrary, courts the fullest publicity for his views, and wisely selected the oldest, most influential and widely circulated paper in the neighbourhood of the district in question, and another in Toronto, for communicating with the public.

Mr. Gilmour would have the (Quebec) public believe that the land in the backwoods is composed of masses of rock or gravel, or sand, possessing none of the substances necessary to produce grain or other crops." Mr. Hayes replies that the "lowest intelligent estimate, based upon actual observation of a great part of it, and reliable official reports of the whole, gives about forty per cent. as good land fit for cultivation, twenty per cent. inferior, but still such as will ultimately be made productive, and forty per cent. rough, rocky, and unfit for tillage."

There are other assertions in Mr. Gilmour's statement—such as that the extension of settlement leads to the destruction of the forests by settlers' fires—which are disposed of unanswered by the Crown Land Agent, who clearly sees that if settlers be excluded from the six million acres of land and water in the Ottawa and Trent territory, and the district be reserved for the exclusive benefit of the lumberers, the question of the future greatness of Canada is already adversely decided.

We can only hope that the discussion thus started may not be allowed to drop, and that the agitation incisively stirred up by the lumbering advocate will give an impetus to the settlement of the backwoods. "A lumbering country is always a poor country," say the Yankees. It must be so. The lumbermen take all that suits their purpose, and having done that, and given nothing to the land in return, leave the country with little remaining to induce settlement. But the farmer, as a rule, is always helping to enrich the country—and we believe that wherever hardwood trees will flourish, there, if he understands his business, he can make a good living. We do not advise old country townfolks to try their hands at the life—for they would surely meet with hardship, disappointment, and possibly ruin. But while, to our knowledge, native born Canadians are moving voluntarily many miles to the rear of the township of Madoc—and are satisfied that they are now doing, and are likely in the future to do well—we cannot assent to the propriety of the assertion that the settlement of the district is being "forced."

The agricultural and lumbering resources of the

wilds of Central Canada, however are not alone to be in the 3rd Concession; but as sufficient notice had not been given, they were laid over till next meeting of Council, and have stood suspended to this day. The Auditor's Report was laid on the table, when it was suggested that a synopsis be prepared and published in the Mercury, and a draft edition of Mr. Dale, on behalf of R. Squires, brought up the matter of taxes on his property in the village, which was destroyed by the late fire, when the Council unanimously agreed to release him of the obligation.

No further business having been brought up, the Council adjourned till the third Monday in April.

We have only one other observation to make. Those who have so freely asserted that the Hastings Road was made by the Government at the suggestion and to suit the convenience of a certain great lumbering company, will of course now see the absurdity of the supposition. The professed object of the Free Grant Roads was to open up a valuable but inaccessible tract of country to more speedy settlement, and would take place from the natural increase of the population; while the lumbermen, it appears us, do not want settlers to be intruding upon their exclusive domain.

**A RUNAWAY TEAM.** —*Forty-five Escape of Two Little Children.* — On Wednesday evening, just before sun down, as the neighbours were starting to attend the Church of England services at Best's schoolhouse, the infant children of Mr. Charles Fox jumped on to his sleigh as he was going to fetch a load of wood. The team had been steadily at work all the day, and might reasonably have been expected to remain quiet, while he went indoors to get his mitts. By some means the horses got scared, and in an instant set off at the utmost speed. One little girl slipped off behind, but a little boy of five or six, and a girl of three years old, were left on the sleigh, and their cries only served to urge the horses on. The persons who were on the road could not perceive the little ones until the sleigh had gone out of sight, and the team dashed along the road through the woods, every one who heard the cries of the children set out in pursuit. At about a mile and a half's distance, one of the boards of the sleigh fell out, letting the little girl down into the road. The boy held on for a short distance further, when the horses fell as they turned off sharp, at Mr. Marshall's clearing, and then the plucky little fellow at once ran back to look after his sister. Beyond suffering severely for a time from being thoroughly chilled, we are glad to say the children escaped without injury.

#### MADOC TOWNSHIP COUNCIL.

The Municipal Council of the Township of Madoc met on Monday last, the 9th inst. Present—A. F. Wood, Reeve; W. H. Timely, Deputy Reeve; Peter Yorkleek, John N. Moore, and John Dale. The Clerk having read the minutes of the previous meeting, they were approved and adopted.

Mr. Timely handed in a petition from Thomas Thomson and others praying the Council to grant a tavern license to Obadiah Johnston at Ruport's Corner.

Mr. Dale also handed in a petition on behalf of James Johnston, praying for a license to him for the tavern at Wanpanawka's.

The Council, after considering both petitions, instructed the License Inspector to notify James Johnston that unless he entered into the necessary bonds and took out a tavern license by the 20th instant, a license would be granted to Obadiah Johnston.

Mr. Dale presented a petition on behalf of James Deane, praying for a tavern license for his stand beyond Banockburn. The Council, after considering the same, and the number of taverns already on the Hastings Road, refused the prayer of said petition.

Mr. Munby made application to have a new road established at Banockburn, extending to the boundary line of Tudor, which was granted, and that he be remunerated for the year.

The Road Surveyor handed in a petition, and reported thereon, asking allowance of road between lots 15 and 16 in the 4th Concession. Also a petition and post as to road across lot 24 and west half of lot 25

in the 3rd Concession; but as sufficient notice had not been given, they were laid over till next meeting of Council, and have stood suspended to this day. The Auditor's Report was laid on the table, when it was suggested that a synopsis be prepared and published in the Mercury, and a draft edition of Mr. Dale, on behalf of R. Squires, brought up the matter of taxes on his property in the village, which was destroyed by the late fire, when the Council unanimously agreed to release him of the obligation.

No further business having been brought up, the Council adjourned till the third Monday in April.

Thursday night was one of the coldest of the season. At seven o'clock on Friday morning, the thermometer stood at eleven degrees below zero.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the undersigned will apply to the Municipal Council of the Township of Madoc at their next meeting, to be held on the 20th April next, for the purpose of obtaining the allowance of road between Lots 15 and 16 in the 4th Concession, Madoc, in lieu of the road now travelled.—JOHN RUPERT, Sen.

#### MADOC HOUSE.

##### NEW GOODS.

#### WOOD & BREAKELL.

##### General Merchants,

DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, GROCERIES, COAL, OIL, LAMPS, BOOTS & SHOES, &c., &c., &c.

Cash paid for Grain and Potash.

Madoc, Nov. 1862.

#### THE RUSSELL HOUSE, MADOC,

##### By A. Snider,

Corner of Madoc and Donald Streets.

A FIRST CLASS HOUSE, in the business part of the town. A Good Yard and Stabling.

#### The Mail Stage to Beaver Creek.

ON and after MONDAY, the 2nd of MARCH, 1863, THE MAIL STAGE will leave the Village of HASTINGS for BEAVER CREEK on every MONDAY and THURSDAY, FARE, ONE DOLLAR EACH WAY.

LYMAN MOON.

#### DEANS & GRAY, GENERAL MERCHANTS

JAMES DEANS. ROBERT T. GRAY  
Madoc.

#### FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,

At Publishers' Prices, Call At

#### WILSON'S DRUG STORE, DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

#### NEW STORE AT MADOC.

A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,  
DEALERS IN STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS,  
BOOTS AND SHOES, LEATHER, &c.

The Highest Price in Cash paid for Potash.  
A. B. ROSS. S. D. ROSS.

#### MEDICAL HALL.

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

#### C. G. WILSON, CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

#### A. F. WOOD,

#### MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT, MADOC.

#### DR. THWAITES, Madoc.

#### D. C. BROWN, BLACKSMITH, HORSESHOER, &c. JOBING DONE AT ALL TIMES. Both in the Village, and near Ruport's School-House.

#### JOHN DALE,

DEALER IN STOVES, TINWARE, SHEET IRON, &c.  
A Large Assortment of CHINA, GLASS, and BOX STOVES  
always on hand.

#### ANDREW WRIGHT,

BAKER AND CONFECTIONER, East Side, Durham Street,  
Madoc.—A Large Assortment of Liquors, Groceries, and  
Provisions always on hand.

#### W. FINDLAY,

Town Clerk, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c.  
Office, Town-Hall, Madoc.

#### JAMES FITZGERALD,

ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER  
MADOC.

#### MR. GREAM,

(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts  
of England)

#### Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.,

West Half of Lot 20 in the 7th Concession of Madoc,  
Mr. GREAM will attend in Madoc Village every  
Saturday.

#### MADOC GRIST MILL,

A. F. WOOD, Madoc.

A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

#### WILLIAM W. CORK,

Bailiff of Sixth Division Court,  
MADOC.

#### TO RENT, OR EXCHANGE

FOR A SUITABLE HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE

#### THE LARGE FRAME BUILDING,

On the North-East Corner of Lot No. 23, in the  
Fifth Concession of Madoc,

IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING KELLAN'S BRIDGE,

Well Adapted either for a Store or Dwelling  
House.

For Particulars apply either on the spot to A. A. Smith, or if by letter post, and, at the Madoc Post Office.

#### MADOC MARKET PRICES.

TUESDAY, March 14th, 1863.

ASHES	\$0 15	lb.
BARLEY	\$0 15	lb.
OATS	35 to 40	cents
WHEAT	80 to 90	cents
PEAS	30 to 40	cents
HIDES	\$4 to \$4 50	
PORK	\$9 50 to \$10 50	per lb.
BUTTER	12 1/2 cents	lb. per lb.
HAY	\$12 1/2	ton.

#### BANNOCKBURN PRICES CURRENT.

WHEAT	\$0 30	to \$1 00
OATS	37 1/2	to 40
PEAS	50	to 60
BUCKWHEAT	50	to 60
ASHES, 30 lbs.	50	to 60
BUTTER, 1/2 lb.	10	to 12
HIDES, \$4 25 to \$4 50		
HAY, \$1 50 to \$2 00 per load		
STRAW, \$1 50 to \$2 00 per load		
POTATOES, 20c to 40c		
PORK, \$8 to \$9 75		

March 14th, 1863.

#### BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Spring Wheat, 40 cwt. to 50 cwt.	40c to 50c
Barley, 40 cwt.	40c
Oats, 40 cwt.	40c
Peas, 40 cwt.	40c
Turnips, 40 cwt.	40c
Hay, 10 tons	40c
Potatoes, 40 cwt.	40c
Pork, 100 lbs.	40c
Butter, 1/2 lb.	10c
Eggs, 1/2 dozen	10c

Hon. George Brown has been elected for North Oxford, by a majority of nearly 300.

The London Free Press learns that Mr. Jury's well at the Oil Springs, which stopped some time since, commenced flowing again on Friday, as well as ever.

## THOSE SILVER THREADS.

Those little threads! those silver threads!  
Bosomed in my sun hair!  
Alas! alas! I cannot say.  
They find no solace there!

They tell me I am growing old;  
My beauty's on the wane;  
And honey o'er, so where's girl?  
I never may wear again!

They something say of tattering steps—  
Of feeble, bended form;  
Of weakened memory, failing sight;  
When life has lost its charm.

Alas, alas! those silver threads!  
Should I then, charm now,  
More little messages of Time,  
Would come to deck my brow?

These shining threads! those silver threads!  
Even golden could they be.  
Youth's auburn curls, and bonny braids,  
Were dearest fit to me.

And yet, these little silver threads  
A useful lesson give;  
They teach us to remember all your days,  
And learn to wisely live!

(Concluded.)

A NIGHT OF HORROR.

A TRUE STORY.

In an instant the horrid truth flashed upon me—I was in the grasp of a madman. Better the phantom at scenes—the sight than the wild beast that rends—the quivering flesh—the pitiless human that has no heart to be softened no reason at those bars to plead; no compassion, nought of man in the form; and the emanation. I gasped in terror at the mystery of those enshrouded features, those fiery, wolfish jaws: this free hit, besmeared with thickening blood is revealed. The slain sleep, a mangled corpse, the putrefied bands by the prints of the naked foot—all, all were explanted, and the hair, the broken link of which was found near the slaughtered animals—it came from his broken chain—the chain he had snapped dumbfounded in his sleep from the asylums where his raging frenzy had been uttered and bound. In vain! in vain! Ah me, how did this gentle Sampson broken manacle and prison—how had he shirk'd guardian and keeper and hostile world and come hither on his wild way; hunted like a beast of prey, and snatching his bison's horn, unabashed like a beast of prey. Yes, through the胎 of his mean and ragged garb I could see the marks of the severities, cruel and foolish, with which men in that time tried to tame the might of madness. The scourge—its marks were there, and the scars of the hard iron fitters, and many a cicatrix and welt that told a dismal tale of hard usage. But now he was loose, free to play the brute—the baited tortoise-brute that they had made him—now without the cage and ready to gloat over the victim his strength should overpower. Horror! horror! I was the prey—the victim—already in the tiger's clutch; a dead sickness came over me, and the iron entered into my soul, and blighted to seem and was dumb.

I died a thousand deaths as that awful morning wore on. I dared not faint. But words cannot pain what I suffered as I waited—waited until the moment when he should open his eyes and be aware of my presence; for I was assured he knew it not. He had entered blue chamber as a leper when we aye and gorged with his horrid orgies, and he had lying himself down without a suspicion that he was not alone. Even his grasping my sleeve was doubtless an act done between sleeping and waking, like his unconscious monologue in some frightful dream.

Hours went on; then I trembled as I thought the soon the house would be astir—that my mind would come to call me as usual, and awake that ghastly sleeper; and might he not have time to tear me, as he tore that sleep, before my aid could arrive?

At last what I dreaded came to pass—a light foot step on the landing, then a tap at the door. A pause succeeds, and then the tapping is renewed and this time more loudly. Then the madman stratched his limbs and uttered his moaning cry and his eye slowly opened—eyes slowly opened and met mine.

The girl waited awhile before she knocked for the third time. I trembled lest she should enter the door unbidden; see that grim thing, and by her the grim and terror, bring about the worst. Long before strong men could arrive I knew that I should be dead—and that a death!

The maid waited, no doubt surprised, at my unusually sound slumber. I was in general a light sleeper and early riser, but reluctant to deviate from habit by entering without permission. I was still alone with the thing in man's shape, but he was awakening the words of the beginning, *Faint, Love, Late!*

now. I saw the wondering surprise in his haggard, blooming eyes; I saw him stare at me half vacantly, then with a crafty yet wondering look; and then I saw the devil of murder beginning to peep forth from those hideous eyes, and the lips to part as in a snare and the wolfish teeth to bare themselves. But I was not what I had been. Fear gave me new and desperate composure—a courage foreign to my nature. I had heard of the best method of managing the insane; I could but try, I did try. Calmly, wondering at my own signed calm, I fronted the glare of those terrible eyes. Steady and undismayed was my gaze—motionless my attitude. I marvelled at myself, but in that agony of sickening terror I was outwardly firm.

They sink, they quail abashed—those dreadful eyes before the gaze of a helpless girl; and the shame that is never absent from insanity, bears down the pride of strength; the bloody cravings of the wild beast. The manic mouned and despoiled his haggard head between his gaunt squid hands. I lost not an instant, but rose, and at one spring reached the door, tore it open, and with a shriek pushed through, caught the wondering girl by the arm and crying to her to run for her life, rushed like the wind along the gallery—through the corridor—down the stairs. Mary's screams filled the house as she fled beside me. I heard a long-drawn ringing cry, the roar of a wild animal mocked at its prey, and I knew what was behind me. I never turned my head—I flew rather than ran. I was in the hall already; there was a rush of many feet, an outcry of many voices, a sound of scuffling of feet and of brutal yells and oaths and heavy blows, and I fell to the ground crying "Save me," and I lay in a swoon.

When I recovered from that long illness, though which I had been nursed so tenderly, the pitying looks I met made me tremble. I asked for a looking-glass. It was long denied me, but my importunity prevailed at last—a glass was brought. My youth was gone at one fall swoon! The glass showed me a pale and haggard face, blanched and bloodless as of one who sees a spectre, and in the ashen lips and wrinkled brow dim eyes I could trace nothing of avowed self. The hair too jetty and rich before, was as white as snow, and in one night the ravages of half a century had passed over my head!

My nerves have never recovered their tone after that dire shock. Can you wonder that my life was nighed, that my lover shrank from me—shrank from me a sad a week. I am old now—old and alone. My sisters would have had me to live with them; but I chose not to burden the genial homes with my phantom face and dead eyes. Reginald, my over-purified brother, he has been dead many years. I never used to pay for him, though he deft me when I was a staff of aid. The sad wist spell is nearly over now. I am near the end of my life and wishful for it. I have not been bitter or hard, but I cannot bear to see so many people and men alone. I try to do what good I can with the worthless wealth Lady Spendthrift left me, for at my wish my portion was shared between my two sisters. What need had I of inheritance?—E, the shattered wreck made fit that one night of horrors—*Buckinghamshire Herald*.

## VARIETIES.

There are 1,296 newspapers published in the United Kingdom, of which 40 are daily papers.

The four railroad companies whose roads centre at Cleveland, Ohio, have decided to build a depot in that city at a cost of nearly \$150,000.

About one hundred poverty-stricken emigrants sent out from Liverpool at the expense of Miss Burlett Curtis arrived at Hastings, by the Canada, and were immediately indited to situations in that vicinity. Real philanthropy is here doing a good work.

Mr. Charles Dickens has been giving readings from his own novels, at Paris, for the benefit of the British Charitable Fund located there, and also to assist the distressed cotton spinners of Lancashire.

A Hindoo lawyer, Mr. Motu Cosaransamy, has lately been called to the English bar—the first non-Christian Hindoo who has gained admission there.

Catalai, one of the Maori kings, has started a newspaper at New Zealand, the first number of which contains this admonition: "When this sheet comes to you, pay for it, if you approve; the price is three-pence." The good old man has many irritabilities to the tribe of the moral, because constantly fixed among the words of the beginning, *Faint, Love, Late!*

The Prince and Princess of Wales will spend the first fortnight of their honeymoon at Teignmouth, in Devonshire. The elegant Theatre Royal, at Glasgow, has been entirely destroyed by fire.

Thirteen lives were lost by an explosion at the DuPont powder mills, in Delaware, U. S., on Feb. 23.

A company of lawyers having assembled to dedicate a new Court House, it was suggested, by some one familiar with Dr. Watts' hymn, that they had come to "view the ground where they must shortly die."

The ship *Golden Hind*, in which Sir Francis Drake navigated the world, was but of one hundred tons. Queen Elizabeth commanded that she should be forever preserved; but all that is left of her is now a chair made from her timbers, which is at the University of Oxford.

A man, evidently insane, threw himself from the south tower of Notre Dame, at Paris, and in falling his body struck with such violence against the edge of a buttress that the legs were detached from the trunk and fell to the ground, while the remainder of the body lodged on one of the galleries.

A set of ornaments of pink coral has just been completed, after five years' labour, for the Empress Eugenie. One of the stones came from the head of Madame de Pompadour's cane, and all are of great value.

RARE MARRIAGES OF PRINCES OF WALES.—The marriage of a Prince of Wales is an event of perfect novelty to the present generation. It is in fact an event of rarer occurrence in the annals of English history than most people are aware of or would readily believe. Of all the fourteen Princes who have borne this title, only five married when they were in possession of it, and of this small number one was married abroad. These Princes were first, the renowned knight who won the triple plume and motto, Edward the Black Prince, who married Joan of Kent; second, Edward, the son of Henry VI., who at Amboise married Lady Anne Neville, the daughter of the King-maker; third, Prince Arthur, the son of Henry VII., who at 15 years' age pledged his boyish vocation to the unhappy Catherine of Aragon, afterwards the first of the many wives of his next brother Henry; fourth, Frederick, eldest son of George II., who at the age of 29 married the Princess Augusta of Saxe-Gotha, in the Chapel Royal, St. James's; and fifth and last, the Prince Regent, afterwards George IV., to the illustrious Caroline of Brunswick. Nearly 70 years have passed away since that last scandal was enacted, when the Prince Regent put the corner stone to the cruel theory that Princes must marry without affection by taking his wife literally according to Act of Parliament, and in return for the payment of his debts.

In the long interval that has elapsed since that marriage of matrimony was gone through, the Chapel Royal has been followed by two marriages based on the purest affection—those of her Majesty and the Prince Royal.

A RUSSIAN POLICE OFFICE.—A letter which appears in the *Koloko* gives a painful vivid idea of the way in which persons are treated in a Russian police office. The writer was accused, falsely by his own account, of having distributed in a Samogitian village copies of a national hymn objectionable to the Government.—"Shortly after, I was arrested in the capital of All the Russias, and placed before the third section of His Majesty's private Chancery—that is, but an euphemistic appellation for what should be called the central police office. I was confronted with a spy, who despatched to my having distributed a Russian translation of Kowai. This translation I denied having ever made, printed, or given away. The Colonel, who examined me, first tried to obtain a confession by means of paternal admonition, and failing to effect this, threatened me with corporal punishment. I smiled at his malice, fancying that the age of torture had passed. Upon this he had me taken to another room, where I found four soldiars waiting for me with rods ready prepared. Again there was a paternal admonition, to which I lent a deaf ear. 'Take hold of him,' said the Colonel, the command being instantly executed by his trusty myrmidons. Another admonition, another pause. 'Now, boys,' exclaimed the Colonel, 'go at him with a will.' And go they did. I received some 20 lashes when the Colonel entered me with a full voice and friendly language to yield and make a full confession. I continued silent, I was treated to another chastisement. But there must be an end to everything, and so the wretches in the present case. I was set at liberty immediately after, and forbidden to leave the capital, being placed at the same time under the strictest supervision of the police. At present I am an exile. Such are the consequences of coming under the attention of the third section of His Majesty's private Chancery."

# THE MADOC MERCURY AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

Madoc, (Hastings Co., O.W.) SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1863.

Price Two Cents.

## MR. BENJAMIN'S SPEECH.

From the Quebec Chronicle's full report of Mr. Benjamin's speech on the Address in the Assembly, we now submit his views on an important question.

### ADJUSTMENT OF THE REPRESENTATION.

Referring to the motion before the House, he said it had been proposed and laid down as a rule by those gentlemen who had advocated this measure that it was not to be confined merely to a question of population, but that property and territory should be embodied in its provisions. He had at all times sustained an adjustment of the representation, and had ever contended that other interests should be maintained besides that of population; and that education held a high position, in his estimate, for any plan devised to reform the representation. Under this view of the question, although ever adverse to motions in amendment upon the Address, he could not refrain from giving his vote in favour of the principle advanced in the resolution before them. Having disposed of this question, he would now offer a few remarks upon the speech delivered last night by the Hon. the Solicitor-General West, and he (Mr. B.) doubted not that the whole House was taken by surprise by the tones and assertions of the Hon. gentleman. The hon. gentleman thought that he ought not to be placed in the same category with those other members of the Government who were charged with having deserted the principles which they and their party had so long cherished, before they crossed over from the Opposition side of the House. By this as it may, certainly the gentleman had advanced most extraordinary arguments in defence of his position. And now he would take up a few of the points attempted to be made by the Hon. the Solicitor-General West; and to deal fairly with him, he would use his own words, and then offer a few comments upon the hon. gentleman's line of argument. The hon. gentleman had said "it was not for him to define the meaning of the Double Majority; it was hard to define it, and they only rendered themselves ridiculous who attempted to define it." If the House would only remember the interpretation given to the principle by the Attorney-General West, they would come to the conclusion that the principle, as set up by the Government, was ridiculous indeed. The hon. gentleman referred to the United States to illustrate his idea of Double-Majority, and surely they had it working most harmoniously there. The gentleman said that there "was one statement made by the Government, upon which they stood—it was that should a vote of want of confidence command a majority of the votes of either section, the members from that section would retire." To which pledge they were as faithless as to all others, for the Upper Canada section was left in a minority, and it was the duty of the Premier to have tendered his resignation if he desired to carry out the scheme as propounded by the Solicitor-General. The gentleman then came out with a most extraordinary statement about the opposition given to the measure by the Lower Canadians. He asked, "why was it that Lower Canada was sternly opposed to the doctrine?" It had been frequently asserted that it was because they feared for the safety of their language, their laws and their institutions, if Upper Canada should ever have the preponderance in the Legislature. But he (Mr. Wilson) did not believe this. It was because Lower Canada was in possession of power and was unwilling to part with it. "For this he could not blame them, and he ventured to assert that if the positions were reversed, and Upper Canada had the power, it would not more unwillingly give it up." And then the gentleman went on to discuss the question of the durability of the Church of Rome, and seriously propounded the question that the Legislature of Canada could not break it down. But while speaking of the power which he said the Lower Canadians possessed, and which he had failed to explain, he was not honest enough to declare that it was the intention to subvert and set aside the use of the French language in the Legislative halls of the country, and by destroying the language, ultimately to reach the nationality, which the descendants of Frenchmen still loved to cherish, while they exhibited the most unbounded and sincere loyalty to the Crown of Great Britain.

There was thus distinctive mark between the Militarists and the Opposition upon this question: while the former only used it, with all its bitter ingredients of religion, language and nationality to rouse the worst and most angry passions of their followers; the latter advocated it as a principle appertaining to the Constitution and which they desired should be brought about by constitutional means. But to suppose that men like those who now occupy the Treasury Benches, who used every means to set the country in flames with their agitation, who denounced all men who spoke French or uttered a word in its praise, had no object in view but the mere attainment of a questionable right, is to ask this side of the House and the country to believe what is incredible and absurd. (Hear, hear.) The Hon. Solicitor-General then proceeded to say, that although the late Government was defeated upon the Militia Bill, it was well known that they had lost the confidence of their supporters long before this vote was taken. Now, had he consulted with his colleagues, had he turned to the right or to the left for information, he would have discovered his great mistake, he would have found that the leader of the late Administration, by his implacable determination not to yield the principle of the Bill, even to his friends, but was resolved to carry it in its integrity or be defeated, the defeat would not have taken place. All other causes of dissatisfaction would have been removed, all grounds of complaint would have been explained, and the hungry aspirants for the Treasury Benches would yet have been in the shades of Opposition. He (Mr. B.) contended that with this knowledge within the Cabinet, it was not right that such wilful misstatements should come from the Treasury Benches. The Hon. Solicitor-General then referred to the circumstances which brought about the acceptance of office by the present Government; and certainly, those who know how it had been brought about, would not recognise the picture, for picture it was in the delineation as given by the Hon. Solicitor-General. There stood the member for Cornwall, head erect, with his watch in hand, there he stood, the discarded of his party, the impracticable of the two Oppositions, there he stood, master of the position, at least two heads and two shoulders above his present colleagues in the matter of consistency. He had given them ten minutes to select the course which they would adopt—either to accept office and abandon principle; or to remain firm and lose office. And in these ten minutes the principles of twenty years were given up. (Hear, hear.) No one was more surprised than the Premier himself. But let him beware; men who could so sacrifice every principle of life would not hesitate a moment to sacrifice him, although they were the creatures of his own creation, and if they could they would remove him; but certainly he trusted to the knowledge which the hon. Premier must have of those around him, and if they defeated him he would forgive them. They had a game to play, he knew it, and knew how to play that game as well as they did. They have settled the question—yes, the gentlemen on the Treasury Benches have certainly settled Representation by Population with a vengeance. They had fallen prostrate before the Premier, they had accepted his principles—Double Majority—they had eaten the leek in good style, and, doubtless, found it quite palatable. Having disposed of Solicitor-General West, he (Mr. Benjamin) contended that it was evident that he could not separate himself from his colleagues; they were but one body, and must go down together. But he would now take up the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands, who held himself responsible for his own acts alone, and declared that he was not accountable for the acts of his colleagues. This hon. gentleman had taken the ground of defense; that the resolution moved by him, last session, was only intended to test the opinions of the House for that Parliament; he was driven to have recourse to that subterfuge in consequence of an attempt to show that he had always advocated the Double-Majority principle, and having read many speeches by which he desired to show that he had provided himself with two legs to stand upon, while he dragged his followers along hopping upon one, it became necessary for him to assign some reason, while making all these provisions to fall back upon, he had subsequently moved the resolution reproduced by the Hon. member for Ontario. Had that result

tion been presented simply on its own base, and uncomplicated by any remarks from the gentleman explaining the intention of the resolution, it would have been all as the hon. gentleman desires it should be here; but the speech does not show anything of the kind, it shows it was his desire to do as he has been doing with the question, to use it for a political purpose, most dishonestly, and now caught in the trap of his own words he seeks to make a most ignominious retreat behind a most miserable subterfuge. He would quote a few of the passages, and leave the House to judge how far the hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands was carrying out the principle as laid down by plain Wm. McDougall. In his indignation the gentleman said, "I will support the Government which does not take up the question of Representation by population and settle it in a manner satisfactory to both sections of the Province." Is this the language of a man who only wishes to test the question which he is convinced will be voted down? Or is it the language of one insincere in his profession; and however satisfactory it may be to the people of Lower Canada that these gentlemen should have abandoned their opinions, certainly the adverse vote given by the supporters of the Government from Upper Canada—not one of whom voted with them, shows to a demonstration that there can be no satisfaction in Upper Canada. Then says the gentleman in his meek desire only to test the question: "At the last election all the members returned from Upper Canada, with the exception of some ten or twelve, were pledged to this principle; it was made a plank in the platform of almost every candidate in that section of the Province. That the large excess of population in favor of Upper Canada should not receive the consideration of the Government is most unjust, and I am persuaded that in the event of the Attorney-General West going back to his constituents, even they would insist on his taking decided ground in favour of the principle." Is this the language of the disinterested patriot, who only seeks to gain the opinions of his fellow-legislators, who will act in his cause, or is it the language of one who will agitate publicly to gain or to quit the means of party purposes? He then denies there are essential differences in the ranks of the Opposition in regard to Representation by Population, and yet the gentleman stood up the other night in his place and showed us how he had prepared for future events by taking all round the political compass upon this subject, and thus stamps his own words with falsehood. Then the gentleman goes on to say, it is "self-evident that on this question—Representation by Population—Upper Canada held one position, Lower Canada another." And I now ask where is the opposition?—where is the antagonism spoken of by the gentleman? Sank fifty fathoms deep in the ocean of self-abasement and sacrifice of principle. "The question is one of great constitutional import and ought to be taken up by the Government. I desire to have the country understand, and particularly the constituents to whom the new ministers are about to appeal, what are the views of the Government on this point, and it is for this reason that I have taken upon myself to move this resolution at this early period of the session. The arguments in its favour are so potent and undeniable, and been so often laid before the House, I feel it unnecessary to repeat them." Do men generally talk after this style when they have no other object in view than merely eliciting the opinions of members,—or is this the line of argument of falsehood and deceit?

(To be continued.)

AMERICAN DISLIKE OF ENGLAND.—The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce says:—"Notwithstanding the honeyed words that issue to us from some parts of England, the feeling of dislike towards that government shows no signs of abatement in this latitude. Had the English openly taken sides with the South they could hardly have done more to injure the North than they have done by their duplicity and sham neutrality."

These sentiments are of course supposed to be such as will suit the readers of that moderate and conservative newspaper.

THE MADOC MERCURY  
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.  
Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Two Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:

1 line, first insertion	50
1 line, subsequent insertion	25
10 ten lines, first insertion	100
10 ten lines, subsequent insertion	50
20 twenty lines (per line) first insertion	200
20 twenty lines (per line) subsequent insertion	100

All Correspondence for the MERCURY to be addressed, (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

This news will be inserted on the following terms for cash:

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

The Cincinnati Commercial has a rumour via Cairo, that the rebels have retaken Fort Donelson and Lewy. Though it is not credited, troops were ordered there for an emergency.

A special despatch from Memphis to the Gazette gives a report of a fight on the Yazoo, in which 7,000 rebel prisoners were captured, and 8 transports. No particulars. No official intelligence, however, had been received in Washington up till Wednesday afternoon.

New Orleans advises to the 8th inst. that preparations have been made for an immediate attack on Port Hudson. Troops and munitions of war have already moved in that direction. Generals Banks and Grover have started for Baton Rouge. The attack on Port Hudson is to be made by land and water.



THE MADOC MERCURY  
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, MARCH 21.

HARD TIMES.—A REMEDY.

Business seems to be very dull at present. The principal cause is doubtless want of money, or what is as bad both for the farmer and the merchant, no surplus produce to dispose of. But even with average crops, money, we think, will always be likely to find its way out of instead of into the North Riding, until such time as the ways and means are provided to retain the savings of the resident population by the establishment, if possible, of a local BANK. We see a derisive smile on most countenances at the idea of such a thing as a Bank in Madoc or Bridgewater; and yet we hesitatingly declare our belief that if it is out of the question, it can only be because the elements of financial prosperity are entirely wanting. With all the faults of the American system of paper money—(much ameliorated, however, before the war broke out, by legal enactments for securing the convertibility of the notes into gold)—and the liability to loss by counterfeiting, the establishment of legal banks of circulation, and savings banks in almost every town and even village of any size, has been one of the chief causes of the more rapid development of material prosperity and wealth than falls to the lot of the Canadian as compared with the American emigrant. As it is, money now naturally flows to the headquarters of the banks in the two or three large cities of the

Province; and until we acquire the art of setting up and managing local banks successfully, we must be content to drag along in a gradual decline to ruin in loss. Most of us may for the want of means to develop them allowed our remains in the place of in- terment. The Rev. David Wishart preached a like funeral sermon in level Barrie in his funeral sermon in the new Presbyterian Church on the 11th inst. to a large audience, much will have more—and the cash always who owned by their solemn attention, finds its way to the nearest "big pile," in the sympathy they feel for the numerous relatives Communicated.]

HORN BLOWING AND DRUMMING.

MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

The Council met at the Shire Hall on Tuesday, the 10th inst., but in consequence of that day being appointed for the marriage of H. R. II, the Prince of Wales they adjourned to the following day.

Wednesday, March 11th.

The minutes of previous meeting were read. Mr. Prizzell presented his certificate as Receiver of Tyendinaga, in lieu of Mr. Appleby, resigned.

The Warden addressed the Council at length, explaining that he had called them together at an earlier date than that to which they adjourned at their last session, for the purpose of bringing before them matters of importance that should have their consideration. The Council of Huron and Brant had invited them to co-operate in petitioning the Legislature to impose taxes on unpatented lands. A communication had been received from the Warden of Peterborough, requesting the Council of this County to have two miles of road between the eastern boundary of the county of Peterborough and Marmora village put in a proper state of repair, so as to enable persons to travel in carriages from Peterborough to Belleville. Attention was also called to required changes in the present assessment law, and to some other matters of minor importance. The following remarks we present in full.

There is no objection to a proposal to collect the taxation of the County, and I would like to communicate in the Quebec Chronicle of the 15th of February, the signature of Albin Gilmour, of this city, addressed to the members of Crown Lands, under ordinary executive laws, and perhaps it would be advisable to bring newspaper copies of this to you, but in this case the subject matter of the article will be the position and influence of the writer, and the object of your interest. I have however copied the address of George Allen, gentleman, member of this Council, fully connected with the subject of the article in question, and in doing so will be brief, and to the point. In this matter, I may however briefly state that Mr. Gilmour's reasons for opposing the Commission of 1845, 1846, &c., profess him to believe—that the policy of opening up so large tract of country between the Ottawa River and Georgian Bay, is but policy, simply because it interferes with lumbering interests. He also, by a one-sided calculation, attempts to show that if the lands were re-taxed for the lumber tax, a larger revenue would accrue to the Government than by the timber tax itself for agricultural purposes. A small revenue was the only object of a government should have in view in developing the resources of the country. If the interests of two or three large lumbering concerns of more importance than finding homes for two or three millions of people, the proceeds of whose labour and enterprise would be of more value to Canada than all the lumbering interests of the next century, I have no objection in saying that it is better to let these large lumbering monopolies be sympathetic in spirit and practice, to the agricultural interests of the country, being very different indeed to those men engaged in the same business in England, who are continually opening up roads, and by their presence identifying themselves with those of the settler in various other ways, and by such acts becoming a real blessing to the community. While the others, by stripping the country of all its valuable timber without leaving corresponding benefits, become in the end a curse. The large interests in this County and in its neighbourhood, which would be seriously affected by the application of a policy such as proposed by Mr. Gilmour, has induced me to bring this matter before you.

With reference to the finances of the County, I need scarcely urge upon you the importance of economy in the expenditure of this year and the necessity for retrenchment every reasonable way.

The large amount expended last year upon gravelled roads and for other purposes, in excess of appropriations, added to the ordinary expenses, with interest and sinking fund, will make the amount to be provided for this year, not less than \$45,000, requiring a rate of 4 cents on the £. The ultimate object of this kind of expenditure is to increase the value of the property, and to increase the taxes of succeeding years, but I have been told to me by local men, that the result of my investigations into the affairs of the County has more than ever convinced me that the only wise course to pursue in these ordinary cases, such as building roads, etc., or repairing public buildings, where the cost would be too great to be chargeable upon the taxes of one year, is to make no expenditures beyond the income of the year in which they are made.

Grants of this kind have been made repeatedly in this County, and one of the results will be to increase the taxes of this year. A year so seriously affected by the short crops of last year, that if it were possible, and sustain the credit of this County, it would be the duty of the Council to assess rates only to increase the taxes. The body of taxpayers, however, only allocated in the commencement of last year, of whom I have not yet been able to give a detailed account, will be practically demonstrated.

I shall endeavor to keep the Council fully informed of the expenditures made during the recess of the Council, and I trust that by carefully guarding against the evils into which we were inadvertently drawn last year, to live within our incomes. Having this object in view, with the assistance of the Treasurer I have prepared a statement showing the requirements for the ensuing financial year, and also the amounts

DEATH OF WILLIAM ALLEN.

William Allen, Esq., died recently at his residence in the Allen Settlement, Madoc at the age of 87 years. He was one of the pioneers of the Township. He emigrated from the County Antrim, Ireland, in 1821, and (like the ancient patriarch Jacob), with his nine sons and one daughter, settled in this Township, where he has resided 35 years.

And it is but justice to his memory to say that few possessed more of the Christian

that will be at the command of the Council for new  
and improved system of State Bank notes  
and bonds and beware of bad and  
fraudulent operators I am Yesterdays 10:00  
at the office of the Bank of Montreal, 15th and 16th  
of March 1863.—I have a deposit of \$1000  
which I have to make out to myself  
and a total of £1000 which I have  
to be provided for this year. From this amount  
I have to pay off the debts of the bank, less  
which is about \$1000, to be received from the value of deposits  
and over \$7000 which is to be paid to the County  
and the rest which is to be used for the payment of  
the County Tax. The uncertainty being the cause  
of much unpleasant embarrassments.

Among the petitions presented was one from W. Carpenter and others, praying that the road leading  
from Tudor to Keller's Bridge be improved.

Thursday, March 12th.  
Mr. Flint presented a report from the committee  
appointed to report upon that part of the Warden's  
address relating to a letter by Allan Gilmore, Esq.,  
which appeared in the Quebec Chronicle of Feb. 16.  
The report—after a discussion in which Mr. Flint  
defended the claims of small lumbermen to  
have some protection, and Mr. Richardson spoke in favour  
of a more liberal policy towards the back townships  
so as to secure a greater number of settlers, and ob-  
tected to the report passing—was adopted.

Friday, March 16th.  
Mr. Richardson moved that the Council grant \$200  
for the purchase of seed wheat and other seeds for the  
poor settlers in Tudor, to be repaid by labour on the roads.  
They had strong claims on the Council in  
respect to the leading roads. Government were going to  
alter the Hastings Road, and settlers would have  
to make other roads.

Mr. Frizzell thought the object could be best attained by exchanging debentures with the township of  
Tudor.

The Warden had suggested to the Reeve of Tudor  
to apply to the County Council, but at the same time  
thought it rather a subject for Provincial than for  
local assistance, and suggested an application to Parliament.

Moved by Mr. Frizzell, seconded by Mr. Richardson,  
that the Warden and Treasurer issue a debenture  
of \$600 to be exchanged for debenture of Township  
of Tudor for an equal amount.—Carried.

The Warden brought up the matter of printing.  
Tenders were presented from Mr. Bowell, of the In-  
genieur, at his former rates, and Mr. Bell, of the  
Independent, at a reduction of 25 to 30 per cent  
below the same.

Mr. Emo moved, seconded by Mr. Richardson, that  
the printing be continued with Mr. Bowell, as his  
paper had the largest circulation, that he had given  
great satisfaction hitherto by his work, and because  
he had suffered heavy loss by the late fire.

Mr. Graham thought it was unfair to ignore other  
tenders altogether.

Mr. Frizzell thought the printing should be given  
to the paper having the largest circulation.—Mr.  
Emo's motion carried.

The Warden stated that he had ordered the Tre-  
asurer's account to be advertised in two newspapers.  
Mr. Shaw thought that notices respecting our  
Townships should be advertised in the M. 1863. Mainly.

Council adjourned till the third Tuesday in June.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned will apply to  
the next meeting of the Town-Hip of Madoc at their  
next meeting, to be held on the 20th April next, for the purpose  
of obtaining the allowance of Road between the 15 and 16 in  
the 4th Concession, Madoc, in view of the road now travelled  
Madoc, 13th March, 1863.

JOHN RUPERT, Sen.

DR. THWAITES,  
Madoc.

JOHN DALE,  
DEALER IN STOVES, TINWARE, SHEET IRON, &c.  
A large assortment of COOKING STOVES, &c., &c.,  
always on hand but especially fitted out for  
traveling.

ANDREW WRIGHT,  
BAKER AND CONFECTIONER. East Side, Main Street,  
Madoc. A large assortment of Liquors, Sweets, &c., &c.,  
and to take special care  
of the health of the public.

John D. Madoc

John D

Never despair! when the dark cloud is over;  
The sun, though obscured, never ceases to shine;  
Above the black tempest his radiance is gleaming;  
True friends and states-born heroes repel it.  
The master of life holds his lighter and his shadows;  
True friends in the wisdom to such needs a shield;  
Though rough to the road, yet with reason of guide we  
Dare venture to conquer, we'll never despair!

Never despair! when with troubles contending,  
Take labour and patience a sword and a shield;  
All who brighter laurels, with courage unbending,  
Then ever were gained on the blood-tinted field.  
As gay as the first the beam of the morning,  
The yearning hearts spring upwards to do and to dare,  
The bright star of promise their future adoring;  
Will light them along, and they'll never despair!

The oak in the tempest grows strong by resistance,  
The arm at the anvil gains strength by power;  
And firm self-reliance that seeks no assistance,  
Strength, supporting, resolute, through sunshine and shower;  
Truth is a struggle, to try and to prove us;  
And true hearts grow stronger by labour and care;  
While hope, like a serpent, still whispers above us—  
Look upward and outward, and never despair!

## MY GODFATHER'S GUINEA.

My godfather was a man of a thousand. He possessed an iron will and a degree of perseverance which impelled him, having once resolved on a thing, to execute it at all hazards. His career was cited generally as a wonderful example of luck; but the word "luck" ought never to have been used with respect to him, since no man ever owed less to mere good fortune than himself. He had worked his own way, literally by hair-breadths at first; and I believe one of his grand elements of success was his determination never to owe to the aid of another what he could, by any amount of labour, accomplish himself. Self-dependence, perseverance, steady resolution, and industry were the various component-parts of which my godfather's "luck" was made up. I can see this now I am old and grey; but who reasons thus on his eighth birthday? I did not; but having heard the above much-abused term "lucky" so often applied to my godfather, I regarded him as one favoured by some god protecting genius, whose invisible hands removed everything calculated to obstruct success.

My godfather always dined at our house on my birthday. On its eighth anniversary he filled his usual seat at the board; and to this day I can picture him exactly as he looked then. His hair, white enough by nature, was powdered, and in a queue. He had a white and also high forehead, with thick, snowy-white shaggy eyebrows, overhanging such keen black eyes. His dress was always handsome; his shirt-frills like very snow-flakes, and his buckles resplendent with diamonds. He dressed becomingly, because he considered that, like everything else, worth being done well, if worth doing at all. On each succeeding birthday especially, though not then alone, I received substantial proofs of his goodwill towards myself—always wonderfully appropriate, generally something I had actually longed for.

Doubtless his keen appreciation of character and habits of observation enabled him to guess what would afford me most pleasure. I thought an invisible agent followed me, and reported accordingly. Thereafter received his gifts with awe, and cherished them as I did no other of my earthly possessions.

It was after dinner, then, on my eighth birthday. I was full of wonder as to the coming present; for, contrary to usual custom, no outward visible sign, no parcel heralded the gift. "Has he," thought I, "can he have guessed what I so much wish for?" My longing, as it known, was, that the secret of his "luck" might be revealed to me.

I could feel my heart throb, though my breath was almost suspended, as, in compliance with his request, I went to his side. "Francis," said he, "hold out your hand." I obeyed. He placed an antique guinea in the extended palm. "Francis, that guinea was given to me when I was eight years old. Had I not noticed the ear you take of my gifts, I should not, after preserving it more than half a century, now give it to you. Yes," he said, "that guinea was the foundation of my fortune. I had never before owned such a sum when it came into my possession; but I determined to gain more. Some people," he added, "would call it a lucky guinea, and if it be, I am satisfied to transfer it to you. May you be as prosperous in your career as I have been, and from the same cause! Pray guard it carefully; and remember, as long as you possess that, you will never be in want of money."

I did not see the stately smile on my godfather's face, or understand the laugh of my other elders at the old-fashioned commonplace which concluded his language. I was absorbed in an awful feeling of responsibility—in the thought that my godfather in deed possessed supernatural power—had divined my

wish, and not only concealed to me the secret of his "luck" but had placed in my little talisman which had also to assume my own. For many nights after I scarcely slept. I waited in the possession of my treasure; but it was with trembling, for if I should lose it! A cold perspiration covered me at the bare idea of such a calamity.

I was sorely puzzled where to find a safe repository for it. At length I persuaded my mother to make a little wash-leather bag, with an outer covering of silk, in which I placed my guinea, and hung it round my neck with a black ribbon. Year after year did the feeling that its preservation was essential to my well-being continue predominant; and long after the gentle mother who smiled at my whim and humoured it was dead, the guinea hung by the black ribbon in its usual place. My career at school and college proved successful; my tutors praised my industry, fellow-students said I was the hardest reader in the University, my friends sang my praises as a genius and, I smiled, and played with the ribbon whence depended my godfather's guinea. How could I be otherwise than fortunate? You may laugh and call this weakness, but it influenced me; nevertheless, I laughed also, and with good cause—I won. At twenty-three I left college free. Free from all care for the morrow, since those who were "born before me" had taken that upon themselves; free from poverty, since my guardian's jurisdiction ended at the usual time, and his death—for my godfather was the individual—happening soon after my majority, greatly increased my already abundant means.

I had been a great student; but now I resolved to see something of life; I would spend some time in travel before settling down. But first I must go and see Dr. Carleton, an old friend of my father's, resident in Derbyshire, whose eldest son had just taken possession of my vacated rooms at Cambridge.

Most studious men are awkward on entering society—I was extremely so; but Mrs. Carleton proved my good genius, for she had the rare art of making all domineering under her roof feel at home. When I saw her, with her group of olive-branches and her genial hearted husband gathered round the hearth, I was a very boy again in my delight in forming one of the social party. Dr. Carleton's profession engaged much of his time; but weariness or ennui was unknown under the roof with Mrs. Carleton. With her I was a lad; and on my return from a ramble, she invariably called for a relation of my doings, when forthwith I flung myself on the rug at her feet, and gave a full and particular account. I ransacked my memory to amuse "mamma," as I called her; and amongst other things, gave her a half-jesting, half-naïf, but wholly whimsical and imaginative history of my godfather's guinea. She in turn told the doctor, and the same evening expressed a wish to see the talisman. I drew out the little case, still suspended; but that was not enough, she must see the coin itself. I hesitated, but her merry laugh conquered; and after fifteen years' concealment the guinea again saw the light.

I scarcely liked to see it in any hand but my own, though I was in a manner compelled to submit; and it was examined, duly compared with a new one, and replaced in my hand just as a visitor entered. Next day, Dr. Carleton and I went for a long drive through the most charming parts of that romantic district, "The High Peak," and combined the agreeable with the useful by calling on such of Carleton's patients as lay in our way. Wending homewards towards evening, we stopped at the house of a gentleman on whom he had lately been in attendance; but the patient was convalescent, and the call—the most agreeable a doctor can make, at least for the patient, and let us in charity hope for himself also—a friendly one. I awaited his return, sitting in the gig; and feeling chilly, enveloped myself in the servant's cloak, by accident brought with us. I was running over in my mind all the lovely bits of scenery I had passed through, when a smart tug at my cloak aroused me; and a pretty damsel handed me up a glass of beer, accompanied by the whisper. "I have brought you something to drink."

I had the affair in a moment. The pluck at my cloak, and the verbal intimation which followed, convinced me I was mistaken for the servant; so I determined to have a laugh at the expense of my generous Hebe. I readily accepted the brimming cup, saying: "O, thank you; I just wanted such a draught, and I believe Providence has sent you with it, so I see you are an angel." She tried to put on a frown, but the pretty face would not accommodate itself to the terrible lines and angles. She then looked up at me, would permit, and replied, "Hold your boisterous, and drink your beer; your master will be here in a minute." I readily complied with the first and most material portion of this advice; I drank the beer,

and off I went when a man in thinlips, and the good Derbyshire homebrewed; but hold my lid! not; on the contrary, as I returned he beamed a deep sigh, partly of misery, impeded even by sighing—to express the state of my soul towards herself. I was sadly puzzled, but something complimentary, not being used to such of thing, and at length blundered out, and enough, "I wish I had never seen you; I believe I shall never be happy again; and if I won't you have something to answer for, that's

(To be Continued.)

## VARIETIES.

Why should potatoes grow better than any vegetable? Because they have got eyes to see they are doing.

A teacher had been explaining to his class points of the compass, and all were drawn up in towards the north.

"Now, what's before you, John?" "The north," "And what's behind you, Tommy?" "My tail, sir," said he, trying at the same time to glimpse at it.

"John," said a master to his head apprentice, was about starting on a short journey, "you must occupy my place while I am absent." "Thank you, sir," demurely replied John, "but I'd rather be with the boys!"

The Gibraltar, late Sumter, steamer, has arrived safely at Liverpool, after being watched for seven days by a U.S. gunboat.

A very long letter in the "Times," which must be of a high medical or scientific authority, advocates application of common whiting, as a remedy for seyburn.

Mr. Dallas, Governor of Rupert's Land, has remitted a draft on London for £1,000 to a friend in New York, on behalf of the Lancashire operatives, in order that the proceeds may be invested in breadstuffs.

What next in the way of gunpowder? An Australian paper praises the quality of this article, manufactured in Queensland, "from sawdust, by a chemical process."

The French Emperor has a silver vase in his bedroom, which was lately found, by the diggers on the site of the ancient city of Alesia. His Majesty is persuaded himself that it belonged to Julius Caesar and has taken an extraordinary liking to it.

Nomination is early on Lake Michigan, the schools Tricolor and Guide having cleared from St. Joseph for Chicago on the 25th ult.

Soldiers are now discharged in Washington at the rate of two regiments of privates and thirty officers a day. A large proportion are nine month men.

The sales of farms by the Illinois Central Railroad Company in February exceed in number any reached in a single month since the office was opened. Two hundred and sixty-two purchases, more than half of them Germans and Swedes on forty acre tracts; some fifteen to twenty sales for fruit arbories, south of Centralia, and, what is better, some sales to good Union men driven from the South.

DISCOVERY OF FACILITIES IN PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE CULTIVATION OF TEA.—The Philadelphia Inquirer says an incorporated society is upon the point of being immediately organized in that city to superintend the cultivation of tea. In one of the districts of the State large quantities of the article have been lately discovered growing in a natural condition. The discovery was made by a Chinaman traveling through the State several months ago. Specimens of the article, which have been hastily prepared for experiment, and tested by epicures, are pronounced to be of almost equal quality with the best imported tea. It is said that in one tract, at least seven thousand acres exist ready for immediate preparation for the gatherer. As yet the locality of the treasure, and the peculiar conditions required for its cultivation in this climate, remain undisclosed.

A TOUCHING GIFT.—In a bale of promiscuous clothing recently received in Manchester for distribution among the distressed operatives, from some place, the name of which is not given, there was found a boy's Scotch cap. In the cap was a letter, addressed "To an orphan, or motherless boy." On opening the latter a shilling was found enclosed, and the following touching epistle:—"May the youthful wearer of this cap meet its late owner in Heaven. He was beautiful and good, and was removed by an accident from this world to a better. A weeping mother's blessing be on the future wearer of her bright boy's cap."—Number 22, 1862.

# THE MADOC MERCURY AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

No. 18.

MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1863.

of guiltier more base or insidious offence to those  
**MR. BENJAMIN'S SPEECH.**

(Continued)

Here he (the Commissioner of Crown Lands) desired to bring it to bear against the Ministers, his opponents, and truthfully tells you why he brings it forward, not indeed, for the reason which he gave the other night, namely, to test the question, "but because he wished the particular constituencies to which Ministers were going for re-election should know the feelings and opinions of the Government on this question." And this gentleman prides himself upon his consistency. If the House would follow him a little further, he would now refer to that pamphlet to which the hon. gentleman had referred with so much pride. He (Mr. B.) held the beautiful document in his hand, and sure enough it was signed, not by the Commissioner of Crown Lands, but by William McDougall; and it was wonderful to see how the change of position had transmogrified the man. He was no more the same person; or, if he was, he sat in such evident contradiction to himself, that no one could or would know him. But if the House would indulge him, he would give such an apt illustration of the gentleman's consistency, that it would not be forgotten for awhile. What, then, is said by this gentleman in this pamphlet, for which he holds himself responsible. He asks: "Would the adoption of the Double-Majority be a sufficient remedy?" And the House would think, seeing where the gentleman is now seated, and who he acknowledges for his master, that he would have answered the deliberate question in the affirmative; but not so.

Mr. McDougall—I would like to explain.

Mr. BENJAMIN—No, Mr. Speaker. If the hon. gentlemen has anything to say in reply, he can avail himself of the privilege common to every member—he can answer me. But I shall not permit this interruption, nor shall I allow any points to be made, and then have the hon. gentlemen stand up in their places and say the debate had closed, without their taking any part in it. Mr. Benjamin then continued:—Now, look into the honesty of the principle—see the indignation of the virtuous man and patriot, when he exclaims of Double-Majority, "Would it touch the heart of this disease?" Surely it touched their hearts, for they have profited by it. "Would it change the unjust system of representation?" Certainly, for there they sit, every man of them changed. "Would it equalize the burden of taxation?" Assuredly, since they are the recipients of a great portion of the taxes. "Would it put an end to the wasteful extravagance of the present system?" Assuredly, since the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands is one of the presiding spirits. "Would it remove the jarring of race and creed?" Let gentlemen look at the combination and see what it is made of, and then doubt the virtue of the panacea. "Not one of these things would it accomplish." Then he (Mr. Benjamin) would like to know what they were doing there. Would the world believe it, that with such stubborn facts before them, with such unequivocal expression of opinion on the part of this Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands, that he has embraced this Double-Majority, after thus denouncing the absurdity of the doctrine, and has taken back all his opinions and notions upon the matter; true, he has swallowed the bitter pill, but it was washed in the sweet gold of office and power, and without one ejaculation or one moment's restraint they were converted to the powers of the leader. But he would continue this extract. "He would change the men so far as the representatives of Upper Canada were concerned," says the Crown Lands Commissioner, and was he not a prophet, and are they not changed? But what relief was this to the country? Certainly none at all, although to the gentlemen occupying the Treasury benches it must have been a relief indeed. He now desired to call particular attention to the closing sentence of the paragraph, for the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands continues in his indignant mood:—"But what security is there that any set of men under the demoralizing influences and embarrassments of the system to which they would certainly be exposed, might not yield to some extent before the pressure, as their predecessors had done before them?" These were the words of the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands, and he has abandoned the question of utter want of ability to administer the affairs of the

Representation by Population, of which he has made himself an apostle, and in all its demoralizing influences, and even accompanied by all the embarrassments, embraces the damning doctrine of distinction, and power and office are given him, and, he is prepared to take up a principle he has condemned to this extent, and yield as his predecessor yielded, and become lost in the influence of Government. Better were it the country had no Government—better far without responsibilities—than men so devoid of every feeling of integrity and professions for their political principles, should be our Governors or our men to represent us at home or abroad. And well may the world laugh and treat us with scorn. Well may our public men be treated as unpatriotic, when after so many years advocacy of a principle by a party, it is abandoned with unblushing impunity; that the men on the opposite side of the House have abandoned the question of Representation by Population, and take in its stead the demoralizing doctrines and scheme of Double Majority. Now he would desire to call their attention to the effect of this Double Majority. At present the Government is composed of a majority from Upper Canada, and a minority from Lower Canada; even the majority was a small one, perhaps a unit. If this rule were applied to the existing state of things, then the hon. member from St. Hyacinthe must cross the floor, and the hon. member from Montreal, the late Attorney-General of Canada East, must unite with him, with whom he has no feeling, opinion or principle in common. Did any hon. member on the floor of that House suppose for one moment that the hon. member for Montreal would ally himself to men who, for the mere love of power, had repudiated and denounced every political principle of their lives? Could he so shame his followers, and disgrace himself? He (Mr. B.) thought not. For all must admit that the followers of the Upper Canada section of the Cabinet appear, by the support which they give to the renegades who have so shamefully abandoned their principles, and, above all, the principle of Representation by Population, to be willing to do anything so as they may keep their friends in power, if they are only able, whether truthfully or not, to maintain their position before the public. And the only excuse which has been offered, yet is that made by the hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands—that the Government found it impossible to make Representation by Population a part of its policy. If these men were honest in the advocacy of their views, if they were to be depended upon for any measure, if they believed that Representation by Population was a sound and wholesome doctrine, then, before they bent their knees to the power which stood erect before them, and pointed to the dial which indicated that they had but ten minutes to decide, they should have turned their backs upon the tempter, and should not have gone into a Government if they could not carry out their principles. But what did they? They attempted the Double Majority, which they had voted down again and again, and of which the leading apostate had declared in his address "that the differences are so wide between the masses of the two sections, and the promoters of strife and jealousy so numerous, that it is hardly possible to conceive a period would not come, under the Double Majority rule, in which the majority of one section would either be compelled to associate themselves in a Cabinet with the public men of the other section, in whom they had lost confidence, or Government would become impossible." And yet, with their eyes open, though poor, patriotic creatures, no doubt with bleeding hearts at being compelled to do so for the sake of their country, they have consented to go into a Government, just such as they have described, which can only terminate in anarchy and confusion. In this manner has Representation by Population been disposed of by these gentlemen; in this way, too, they have proved themselves unworthy of that confidence which they seek to obtain; but the only reward which would be dealt to them was an unequivocal condemnation at the hands of Parliament.

Hon. Mr. McDougall—Try it now. We are ready.

(Laughter.)

Mr. BENJAMIN—The Opposition did not desire to remove the Government until they had shown their pressure, as their predecessors had done before them. These were the words of the Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands, and he has abandoned the question of utter want of ability to administer the affairs of the

country—they must have the **TWO CENTURIES** until all

Commissions appointed to do the various business of the Departments, before any sum is due to the various Commissions appointed to do the various business of the Crown Land Commissioner from the time of his rise to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. McDougall—Spare the Indian.

Mr. BENJAMIN would spare him the Indian, the hope that in future he would not be so, in (Laughter). He went on to say he thought the Postmaster-General was to blame in the course he had taken towards the Grand Trunk on the question of the postal subsidy. He had stated when out of office that he would have settled when he came into power without reference to an arbitration; yet when in power he at once adopted the plan of his predecessor, and not only consented to arbitrate, but also appointed the umpire with the consent of the Grand Trunk Company, whose agent in Canada had been notified of this fact, and who had been requested to notify the parties interested in England. And then when all was ready for arbitration, he issued his mandate, setting everything aside. The country was able to discuss this matter freely and fully as the Postmaster-General had, in his (Mr. B.'s) opinion, very improperly published Report to Council, which he had no right to do, until it had been submitted to Parliament.

Hon. Mr. FOLEY—How do you know that the Government published it?

Mr. BENJAMIN—I know they did.

Hon. Mr. J. S. MACDONALD—Copies were sent to all the Companies, and they must have published it.

Mr. BENJAMIN—Certainly not; it was the act of the Government.

Hon. Mr. J. S. MACDONALD—No, it was not. It was Mr. Brydges.

Mr. BENJAMIN—I shall prove it to you and to the House, Mr. Speaker, that the gentlemen know nothing about the matter. He then read the following extract from Mr. Brydges' letter to the Postmaster-General, dated 26th Nov., 1862: "Since the receipt of your letter your report has appeared in the public papers, to the great surprise of the Directors of this Company, giving, as it does, a merely ex parte statement and thus leading to the formation of opinions which a knowledge of the whole facts of the case would not justify." This distinctly shows it was published, if not by the Government, at least by the Post Office Department, and gentlemen would do well to avoid such mistakes in future. He desired to be understood, that he did not stand there as the apologist or defender of the Grand Trunk or any other Company. He believed that Company right to a certain extent upon this postal service question; but it certainly had assumed too much, to which fact he would be prepared to speak when the question came up for consideration. He now desired to bring under their notice, a very great and most important subject. He, like the hon. member for Peel, had certainly understood the Attorney-General East to say that the papers connected with the Intercolonial Railroad would be brought down on Wednesday at the latest, but it appears this promise was made under the supposition that the Address would have been disposed of before then. He regretted, however, that they had not come down.

Hon. Mr. McGEE—Just now the gentleman said the Government was wrong for publishing public documents, and now he complains that we did not bring down a document. In no point of view is he to be pleased or satisfied.

(To be continued.)

**The Greek Craving for Prince ALFRED.**—The Greek throne was still unoccupied. The National Assembly shows an almost unanimous vote in favour of Prince Alfred. He had 230,016 Votes, and his nearest competitor, the Due de Lenchenberg, 160,2400. Other members of the Russian family had some 4,600 votes amongst them; Prince Napoleon, 345; a Republic, 93; Prince Ypsilanti, 6; the Due d'Anjou, 3; and the late King Otto only one. The Assembly accordingly solemnly decreed Prince Alfred King, and directed the Provisional Government to invite his Royal Highness to take possession of the throne. The Prince, meanwhile, is sick of fever at Malta.

## THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Information.

It is Published every Saturday Morning, at Two  
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SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE.—The Legislature adjourned yesterday afternoon until 9th April, the Thursday following Easter. Most of the members from the West have left for their homes. A special train for their conveyance left the Point Levi station yesterday afternoon. The cars were crowded not only with members, but with those who frequented the lobbies during the last two or three weeks.

The session so far, with the exception of the debate and vote on the Separate School Bill, was tame and uninteresting. It is felt on all sides that the Ministry is too weak to carry on the government much longer, but the Opposition have scarcely had an opportunity afforded them to measure their strength with the Government. This asking for an adjournment of nearly a month at a period steadily approaching the business season, because Ministers are not prepared with their measures, is only a puerile attempt at staving off the evil day. Last year the Cartier-MacDonald Ministry were courting similar favours at the hands of the Legislature, but they were then struggling under a load of difficulties. Mr. Sandfield MacDonald cannot complain of factious opposition. His opponents have been unusually lenient towards his Government. After the Easter recess, when the Budget, the Militia defences, and the Intercolonial railway question come up, we will have an exciting time of it. The Aylward case, too, will also receive its share of consideration.

*—Quebec Daily News, March 20th.*THE MADOC MERCURY  
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, MARCH 28.

Our opinion that the establishment of a local Bank would give an impetus to the development of the resources of the North Riding, and help to keep money in circulation there, we find is held by some to be "altogether wrong," because it would tempt the farmers into borrowing money, and in the end they would only lose their farms. And furthermore, that if there was an opening, some of the big banks would very quickly embrace the opportunity to establish a Branch in Madoc. As it is, the merchants are always ready to pay cash for all the grain that is offered to them for sale. Therefore, we are told, it is all nonsense to suppose that a bank in the North Riding would keep money in circulation there—as the local banks do in the small towns as well as great cities of the American Union.

We repeat, if a Bank is an impossibility in this neighbourhood, it can only be because the elements of financial prosperity are en-

tirely wanting—if so, the inducements that were held out to settlers to come and take free grants were a mockery, and a lie and a snare. Few would be tempted either by free grants or land at a dollar an acre, to come this way, if it were understood that the country is so poor that the settlers need only expect a bare living—that it takes all they can raise in the summer to keep them through the winter, and that it is out of the question to suppose they will have any surplus to lay by.

A Savings Bank, however, it is said, would be all very well. But how would the managers of such an institution be able to pay interest to depositors if there is no opening for the investment of capital? And how long will it be before the mineral resources of the district are developed, if there is no inducement for the establishment even of a Branch Bank here? For a length of time, the idea has been entertained that Madoc is sooner or later to be the county seat of the North Riding. It seems to us that the very same causes that render a local bank unnecessary must operate to prevent the accomplishment of that object; and that if the population are ever so fortunate as to make more than their expenses, they must either keep their small savings lying idle, or take them to Belleville to deposit for interest, as well as go there for legal purposes which have to be transacted at the County seat.

The mere fact that grain will always fetch cash will not retain money for investment in local improvements. Just as the rain clouds pass over the sandy deserts of Arabia without dropping their moisture—and as they discharge copiously over the bogs of Ireland—money has a tendency to seek those places where the means are provided for storing it up; and as the cash is drained away from the pockets of new settlers so they lose all spirit for enterprise and improvement. The farmers and tradesmen of every new place are therefore alike interested in devising the means for retaining it in circulation.

HO FOR CALIFORNIA!—Scarcely had the news been received that a missing individual from this township was on his way to California, before another old resident concluded to leave this hard country and these hard times, and travel in the same direction. He went in so great a hurry, that he did not stop to settle up all accounts—and amongst other evidences of absence of mind, forgot that the span of horses he drove off with belonged, in fact, to some one else. The owner was soon on his track, but although he generally makes good time on the road, it was thought four and twenty hours' start would be a little too much for him. The skedaddlers to California will soon render a new version of an old nursery rhyme necessary—and the line will have to read—"the butcher, the baker, and the timber stick maker."

FUNERAL.—The funeral of John Rupert, Jr., on Sunday last, was very numerously attended. About forty sleighs and cutters, with nearly 300 mourners, followed his remains to the grave. At the particular request of the deceased, the funeral sermon was preached by John Rennie, Jr., at the W. M. Church. It was a very impressive discourse.

The long wished for thaw has set in at last; although accompanied by occasional flurries of falling snow,

and there are signs that in about two weeks will be a fit condition for the cattle to seek their living. The experience of this winter will doubtless lead many farmer to take care in future to have a sufficient supply of the various roots suitable for animals during the winter.

## THE AMERICAN WAR.

Without any one event of decisive importance, the record of warlike proceedings is once more getting to be more varied than for some time past.

There is no confirmation of the reported great victory somewhere on the Yazoo river, with the accompanying destruction of Confederate steamers and the capture of some thousands of prisoners. On the contrary, fears are entertained by some that the expedition, so far from being a success for the Union cause, is really caught in a trap; for physical difficulties make a return up stream impossible, and defence in front forbids an advance. The fleet was repulsed by a fort at the confluence of the Tallahatchie and Yalabusha rivers, on the 13th inst., after a day's fighting.

Vicksburg still holds out, although rumours are in constant circulation that the place is being evacuated in view of the impossibility of making a successful defence against the preparations for assaulting it. Expectations are confidently indulged of the speedy capture of the whole garrison of the stronghold.

According to Southern papers, Admiral Farragut attacked the Confederate batteries at Port Hudson on the 14th inst., and on the night ensuing attempted to pass them upwards. Only one gunboat succeeded in getting by, but in a damaged condition; the U. S. sloop-of-war Mississippi was burnt to the water's edge, one large vessel was riddled and another crippled; and the flagship was disabled, and went down stream again with all the craft, save the one above-named. Northern despatches, from Baton Rouge, state that Farragut passed the batteries with his fleet, except the Mississippi, which ran aground, and was then abandoned and burned. Gen. Banks's army was within five miles of the enemy's works, in good spirits. By some it is believed that Banks's movement is a mere feint, the strength of Port Hudson having been underrated, and he not having force enough to take the place and guard against a flank attack. The real design was to get the fleet past the batteries, so as to take possession of the Red River, and thus cut off the great source of the Confederate supplies.

In a cavalry engagement at Kelly's Ford, on the Rappahannock, the "first real cavalry fight" of the war, Gen. Averill completely routed the Confederates under Stuart and Fitzhugh Lee.

The old story is revived that Gen. Lee is falling back with his army from Fredericksburg to the fortifications around Richmond.

Fort Anderson, near Newbern, North Carolina, was attacked by the Confederates on the morning of the 14th inst., but after a determined resistance on the part of the Northern troops, the enemy were repulsed by the assistance of the gunboats.

There is a good deal of skirmishing going on in Tennessee. Rosecrans lately attempted to hem in Van Dorn at Duck River, but the latter succeeded in withdrawing his forces. Southern papers say a battle is imminent at Tullahoma.

Seventeen regiments of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi cavalry are said to be encamped in Hawkins county, Tenn., with the intention of making a raid into Kentucky, by way of a gap near Pound Gap.

The Confederate invasion of Kentucky—from which they were driven some time since, "never to return,"—has again commenced. The Union forces at Mount Sterling, amounting to 300, were compelled to surrender, after a four hours' fight, to Col. Clarke. The town was then burned. It was believed Clarke would next attack Paris.

Galveston, Texas, is now so strongly fortified



## SILENCE.

In silence mighty things are wrought—  
Silently builded, shapen, wrought.  
Truth's temple grows the sky;  
To it ascend, like a cataract, from sun,  
From earth, and ocean, winds, and waves, and powers,  
In silence, silent, silent, silent, silent, silent.  
In silence voices of the earth, and mountains,  
And quieting elements, all go to work all  
In silence, silent, silent, silent, silent, silent.  
Boundaries as chariot on the snow,  
The saplings of the forest grow.  
To trees of mighty girth;  
Each mighty star in silence burns,  
And every day in silent turns  
The axle of the earth.

The silent frost, with mighty hand,  
Fetters the rivers and the land  
With universal chain;  
All smitten by the silent sun,  
The chain is loosed, the rivers run,  
The land is free again.

## MY GODFATHER'S GUINEA.

(Continued.)

"How you talk," answered she. "Why shouldn't you be happy? I've done nothing to hinder you."

"Do you call it nothing to come giving a fellow bear just to steal his heart?"

"You're only poking fun at me," was the reply; but her pretty coquettish air and half-conscious smile, which, try as she would, she could not screw into a frown, convinced me my compliments, though clumsy executed, were duly appreciated.

"Now do," said I, "be serious, and tell me if you have a sweetheart; and if not, if you think you could manage a little shop. To my fancy, you're just the sort of article; for I know lots of customers would come for the sake of being waited on by such a pretty smiling girl."

Again she looked in my face, but this time as grave as a judge, and, with an expression on her own of the most complete innocence and candor, answered, thoughtfully, "Well, to be sure, there's Jim Allen has followed me this good while; but if I look at any one else he quarrels, and is always saying he will go list for a soldier: so there's no depending—and—and—I always did think I should like to keep a shop."

At this most critical moment a step was heard, and the noise sent off my fair enslaver with the speed of an antelope. Little was she, or for that matter was I, prepared for the approaching denouement. Carleton had accepted for both of us an invitation to dinner, which had happened to be unusually late, as his friend had company.

After the best toilet circumstances would permit, we entered the dining-room. From my knowledge of my host's family habits, I felt sure of seeing my shop-keeper in perspective; and the first bustle of introduction over, I glanced round, and soon caught sight of her. Exactly opposite, still as a statue, her mouth open to no great width, the said feature being of most moderate dimensions, with her eyes round as a bird's, she stood the picture of astonishment. In one respect she was unlike a statue, for she was red as scarlet-face, neck, and arms all in a glow. The instant she caught my amused look she buried herself at the side-board, and vouchsafed no second glance.

We stayed very late; and when about to depart, I went to ask from her a light for my cigar, taking the opportunity to slip a little present into her hand by way of atonement for the trick I had perpetrated, telling her, in a quiet whisper, the while, "It will help to stock the shop."

At breakfast the next morning I told the joke to Mrs. Carleton, who good-humouredly rated me for cheating the damsel, though she laughed at the speedy discovery of my imposture.

Two days afterwards, in packing up my goods and chattels, preparatory to departure, I missed my godfather's guinea. I ransacked every place, examined every article again and again; the ribbon and case were round my neck, the guinea was gone. At first I thought Mrs. Carleton had contrived to possess herself of it in order to have a laugh at my discomfiture; but no, she assured me she knew nothing of my lost treasure.

At this distance of time I can own how much I was affected by its disappearance; then I was ashamed to let it be known. I sat down on a portmanteau and surveyed the rest of my possessions with a species of calm despair. I half expected they would vanish from before my eyes. Begin with your nursery books, dear reader, and gaze in fancy on every picture of despair which your upward course of reading has presented to your spiritual vision. Fancy Mrs. Blue-beard when the blood wouldn't come off the key. Little Red Riding-Hood when she found the wolf was not her grandmother. Pooh! these are a mere nothing; Aladdin when his lamp was gone would be nester than the thing; but I thought myself fully as desolate as Marat amongst the ruins of Carthage. He

did not feel his desolation more than I did the loss of that guinea. With it, I was a perfect Samson of strength, ready for any undertaking; without it, I was the hair-shorn of his locks, and consequently powerless.

"Absurd!" say you. Well, it was. But it was my pet absurdity; and which of you is without one? Who can look back and say he has not been at some period of life influenced by a superstition equally ridiculous? I believe there are few who, searching into the memories of early days, cannot recall some incident insignificant in itself which still retains the power to influence their actions; or, a sentence uttered perhaps thoughtlessly enough, which possesses a charm for them which only death can dissolve.

If the child he indeed father to the man, so are impressions received in early youth as a strong man to a puny child in comparison with those of a later age; and I frankly confess my superstitions, feeling with regard to the lucky (?) coin increased tenfold after I had lost it.

I declare I was not one bit surprised when, on the morning fixed for my departure from Carleton's, I received news of a very serious change of fortune. I expected a blow from some quarter, and was almost indifferent whence it should come.

Just after coming of age I placed in a certain individual unlimited confidence; and in addition to that, I trusted him with a sum amounting to many thousands of pounds. The man was honest, but unfortunate; and my one lost coin was immediately followed by all these thousands of his golden brethren. So said a letter I received. It was a great but not a ruinous loss. Strange, it affected me less than the disappearance of my godfather's guinea. I considered it only as the beginning of my misfortunes.

I started for the Continent two days after leaving Derbyshire, not in quite the same style I originally intended, and very far from feeling in the same spirits. I left England at twenty-three; I was eight-and-thirty when I saw it again.

As to giving a detailed account of my ill luck during these years of wandering, it is more than I dare do. Imagine all the evil fortune you ever read of happening to a solitary wanderer—adventures at the gaming-tables excepted—and you will have about hit mine. I never did gamble; I felt too sure I could by no possibility win to risk my cash thus. I had a disappointment in love too, which I also attributed to the loss of the guinea. Some of my friends say it was not the disappearance of that coin, but of the number which followed, that did the mischief, and doomed me to old bachelordom.

Well, as I said, I returned to England; and though I knew Carleton and his family had long since left Derbyshire, I felt a great longing to see it again. I resolved to go to the old place, take up my abode at a country inn, and indulge in long rambles as I had done fifteen years before. It was dark when I descended from a stage-coach at the hotel-door, where, if I found the arrangements to my liking, I intended to take up my quarters, about four miles from the town where Carleton formerly lived. Outside was a cold evening in early spring; inside a bright fire, jovial-looking landlord, and a smiling, comely lady. As the latter bustled about, I could not help thinking there was something about her strangely familiar to memory; but I vainly turned over all the faces I ought to remember, and certainly hers was not amongst them.

Tired after my journey, and allured by the comforts of my dormitory, I let the sun be high in the heavens ere I rose the next morning. Then I breakfasted, ordered dinner, intimated my intention of making a lengthened stay, provided I found things suitable, and prepared for a stroll. The landlord was loitering by the door-post, and gave me a civil "good day" as I passed him. In the act of crossing the threshold my eye was attracted by a large circular signboard swinging in the wind, on which was painted with tolerable accuracy a representation of a golden coin, and encircling it these words, "The Lucky Guinea." The sight of this was like a dagger to my breast. I had never forgotten my misfortune: how could I? But the signboard was a mockery of my woes, an aggravation of the discomfort that recollection always caused me. I felt tempted to assault the landlord, who, having reason to remember the lucky guinea had brought him—for doubtless it was so, the sign being no common one—must pose up a flaring advertisement of his good fortune, to deride, in a manner, his less prosperous fellow-creatures. I felt aggrieved, indignant, and yet curious to know all about it. I was tempted to ask the landlord why he adopted such an emblem; but I reflected that I should do better to inquire when a little acquainted with the characters of mine host and his comely wife. I therefore took a long stroll, gazed on the scenery, but remembered little; for I thought of my lost guinea.

I returned, dined, and (carefully) praised the signs and cookery to the landlady, who was in her husband's presence, thereby winning the favor of both. Dinner past, I begged permission to visit the landlord's wife in consuming some excellent wine. Finally, I completed my conquer, stating that I never considered tea was tea unless poured out by female hands, and begging the lady to undertake that office for me.

Having thus got all in trim, I artfully allude to the signboard, and in less time than I shall be able to write it was in possession of the history of its author. I could hardly believe my ears when comely landlady gave an account of her having fifteen years before received a guinea as a present from a gentleman to whom she had given a glass of wine, mistaking him for Dr. Carleton's groom. Suffice to say, I heard the story I have told above, when I was the recipient, I the giver of that guinea. I re-collected what for fifteen years had never entered my mind—that on receiving my godfather's guinea back from Mrs. Carleton, I did not at once replace it in the case, but retained it in my hand after the doctor's entrance. Doubtless, in fit of absence I slipped it into my pocket, and thence transferred it to the damsel who had brought me the beer in gloaming.

(To be Continued.)

## VARIETIES.

It is curious to reflect, says an unknown wag, that the first apple was eaten by the first pair.

The smallest of bridges is said to be the bridge of a baby's nose.

Prince Alfred, at latest date, was recovering health at Malta, and intending to go home, on leave to be present at the Prince of Wales's wedding.

Enamelled Steel Shirt Collars are advertised in England. When they become soiled a sponge passes over them, and they are as good as new. The wearier sit in a damp room the collar immediately begins to rust; this corrosive admonition frequently protects sensitive people from colds!!

The French government has lately manifested a desire to cultivate a better understanding with the native inhabitants of Algeria. It is to be treated as a Colony, not as a military settlement.

Three of the four sons of the celebrated Wilberforce have embraced, at various times, the Roman Catholic faith. One died at Rome, five years since, while studying for the priesthood. Another is editor of a Catholic paper. One only, a Doctor Samuel Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford, is a Protestant—and Purse-cate.

Montreal is uncommonly prosperous just now. It has a population of nearly 100,000 persons, a banking capital of \$22,972,043, and sixteen steamers, plying to and from ports in Great Britain. In the matter of exports, it is second only to New York City.

There is an eight-day clock in Newburyport, Mass., which was manufactured in Boston, England, probably more than two hundred years ago. It belonged to an old family in Newbury. It is in good order, and keeps accurate time.

A gentleman, having taken home a large turtle, placed it in the servant's bedroom, in order to enjoy her surprise. Next morning, early, Biddy bounded into the breakfast room, exclaiming: "Be jabis! I've got the devil!" "What devil?" inquired the head of the house, feigning surprise. "The buly, bed-bath that's been a'ain the chil'der the last month—I've got him, sure."

The total amount of paper-money now afloat in the U. S. is stated at \$1,357,000,000, exclusive of the \$150,000,000 of new legal tender, now authorized to be used in converting the Treasury notes.

A NICE POINT OF LAW.—Two Quakers applied to their society, as they do not go to law, to decide the following difficulty: A. is uneasy about a ship that ought to have arrived, meets B., an insurer, and states his wish to have the vessel insured. The master is agreed upon. A. returns home and receives a letter informing him of the loss of his ship. What shall he do? He is afraid the policy is not filled up, and should B. hear of the matter soon, it is all over with him; he therefore writes to B. thus: "Friend B., if this hasn't filled up the policy they need it, for I've heard of the ship." "Oh," thinks B. to himself, "cunning fellow! he wants to do me out of the premium." So he writes that to A.: "Friend A., the best too late by half an hour; the policy is filled. A. rubs his hands with delight, yet B. refuses payment. Well, what is the decision? The loss is divided between them.